

CONTACT

NO. 1

10¢

COMICS



Contact Comics
Salutes the

DEVILDOGS OF THE AIR...

The Marine Flyers, SEMPER
FIDELIS

AMAZING INTRODUCTORY OFFER!

Do You Want Longer Hair?

MAKE THIS EASY
7-DAY TEST...

FULLY GUARANTEED



LONGER HAIR
Dresses Better
In Latest Styles

★ ★ ★ THEN TRY THIS
PROVEN EASY SYSTEM ON YOUR HAIR
... Helps Prevent Brittle Ends From Breaking Off!

HERE IS THRILLING NEW HOPE for millions who want their dry, lusterless, unruly, brittle and breaking off hair more lovely ... longer. The Juelene SYSTEM has helped men and women all over the nation to find new happiness and confidence in more beautiful, healthy appearing hair. Yes, hair may get longer—the scalp and hair condition being otherwise normal—if the breaking-off process of dry, brittle ends can be retarded. That's why Juelene is such a natural way to help your hair gain its normal beauty. This wonderful SYSTEM helps relieve hair dryness that is caused by lack of natural oils. It helps soften harsh, brittle ends, thus giving your hair a chance to get longer once the breaking-off and the splitting ends have been curbed. If your hair is dry, rough and hard to keep neat, try the easy Juelene SYSTEM for just 7 days. See if Juelene's tendency to soften harsh, difficult-to-manage hair can help yours to become softer, silkier, more lustrous than it has been before—in just one short week! You may win compliments from both men and women who admire and envy your hair in its new lovely beauty.

TEST JUELENE FOR 7 DAYS

Thrilling Results or
MONEY BACK IN FULL!

That's all we ask you to do. Just make the convincing Juelene test for 7 days and see for yourself if your brittle, splitting hair can be softened, made more sparkling and lovely. Your mirror will tell you the thrilling results and so will your friends! If you aren't absolutely amazed with the glistening sheen ... if you aren't delighted with the ease in which you can manage your hair, we will refund every cent of your money. What could be fairer? This proves to you how excellent we think the results will be! So don't wait. Mail the coupon right now. And like thousands of others you may find new beauty, be rightfully proud of your hair. You run no risk because you have absolute guarantee of delightful results or your money back. Send for it now!

★ ★ ★ MAIL 7-DAY TRIAL COUPON NOW!

If you do want longer hair, mail the coupon today. Then test Juelene and notice the remarkable difference in the appearance of your hair—lustrous and well-dressed. See how nicely it lies in place, how easily it combs. With our positive guarantee you can't lose, and have everything in your favor to gain. So make this effort now. Send the Introductory Coupon immediately!

JUEL CO., 1930 Irving Park Road, Dept. A673 Chicago 13, Ill.

Marvelous Help

FOR DRY, BRITTLE HAIR

Dry hair is not only hard to manage but a continual source of embarrassment. Why be ashamed of unlovely hair when it may be so easy to make it beautiful, sparkling with new healthy looks, lovely luster. A woman's hair is one of the first things noticed by men—sleek, shining, glamorously long hair is always alluring. And men, too, attract admiring attention when their hair lies smooth, thick and neat. Try Juelene. See how much more beautiful your hair may be in such a short time, after the dry hair condition has been relieved. Actually make your hair your "crowning glory"! This introductory offer gives you an opportune chance to prove to yourself that you, too, may have sparkling ... longer hair! Be convinced!—Send for your Juelene NOW.

Make This 7-Day Test

... SEND NO MONEY!

JUST MAIL THE CONVENIENT INTRODUCTORY COUPON! Upon arrival of Juelene pay Postman \$1.00 plus postage. Or if you prefer, send a remittance with your order—we will pay the postage. Then test Juelene. Notice how much more silky and soft your hair may be in just seven short days. So take advantage of this INTRODUCTORY, GET-ACQUAINTED-OFFER today—NOW, and know at last the happiness of possessing really lovelier hair.

INTRODUCTORY COUPON...

JUEL COMPANY, Dept. A673
1930 Irving Park Road, Chicago 13, Ill.

Yes, I want easy-to-manage, longer hair. I will try the JUELENE SYSTEM for 7 days. If my mirror doesn't show satisfactory results, I will ask for my money back.

- ☐ I am enclosing \$1.00
☐ Send C. O. D. plus postage

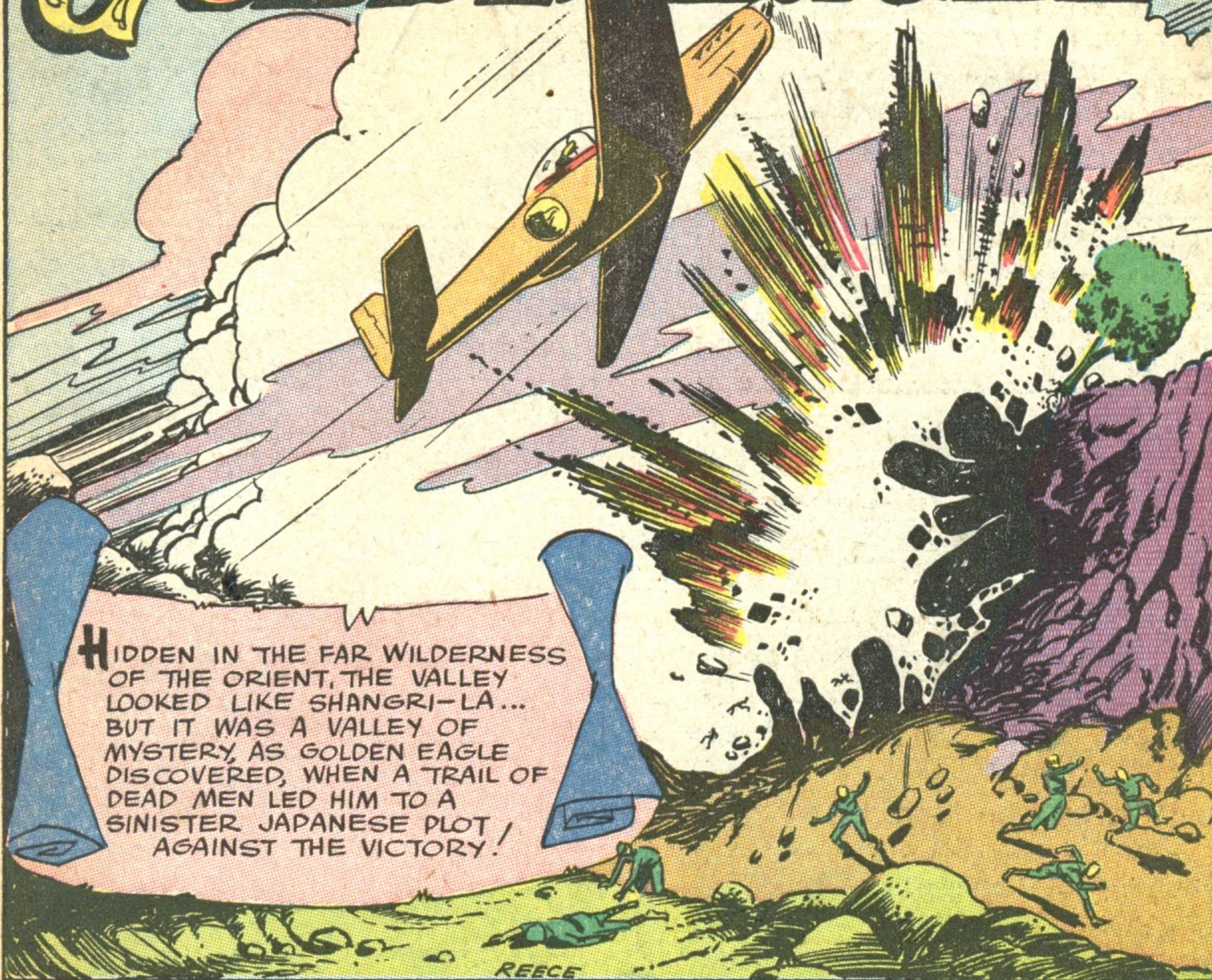
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Our Customers Participate in Lovely Gifts

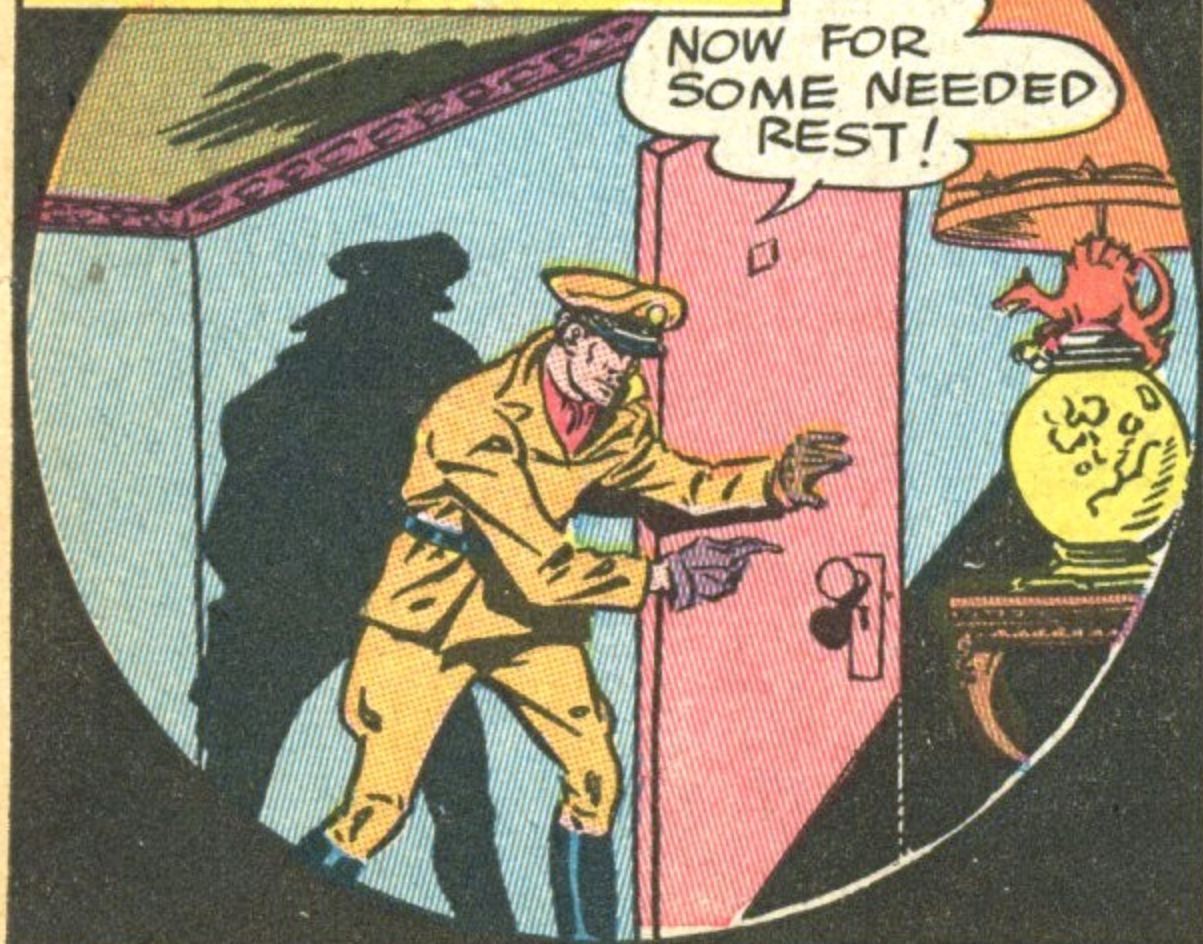
THE GOLDEN EAGLE



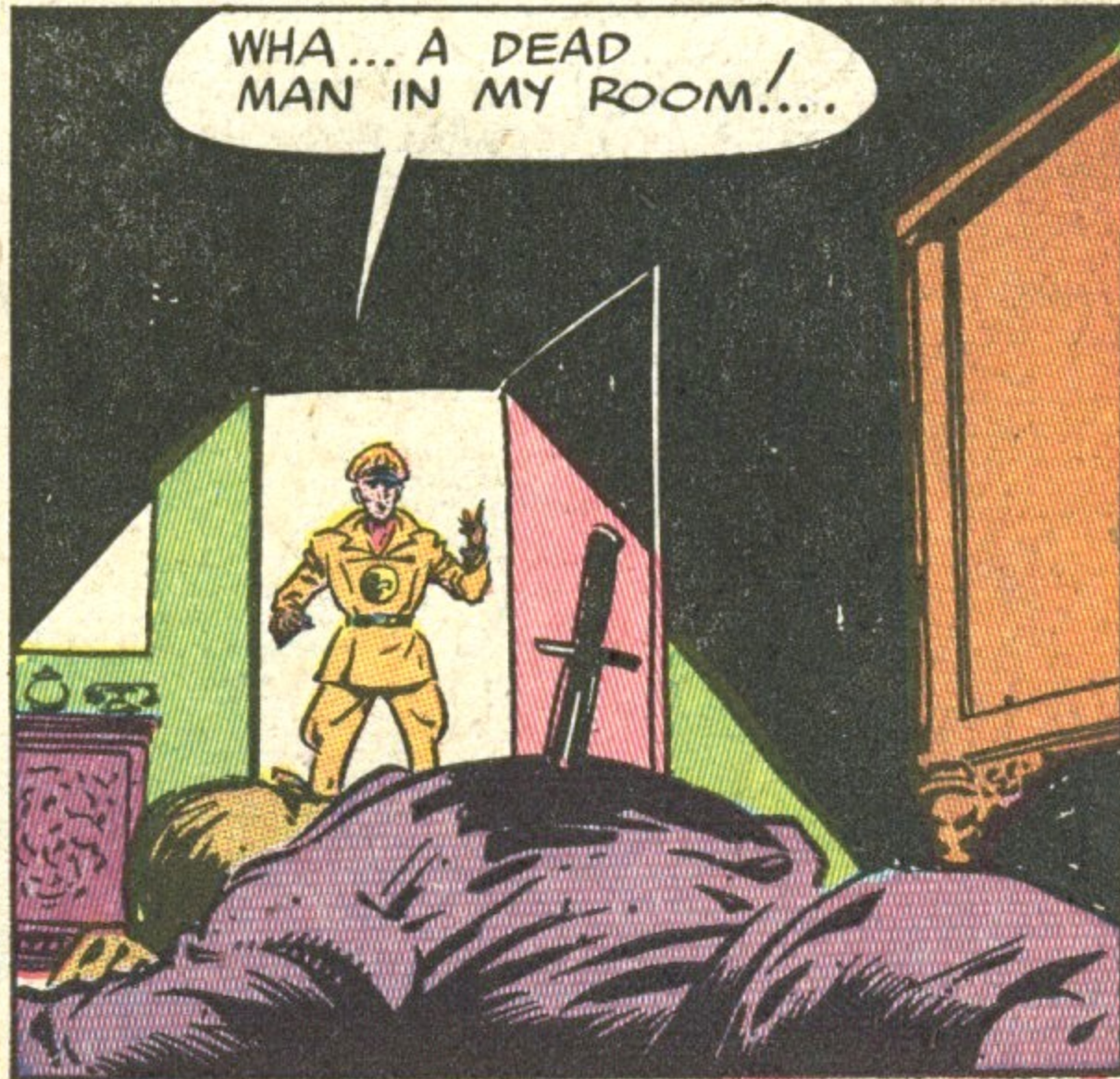
HIDDEN IN THE FAR WILDERNESS OF THE ORIENT, THE VALLEY LOOKED LIKE SHANGRI-LA... BUT IT WAS A VALLEY OF MYSTERY, AS GOLDEN EAGLE DISCOVERED, WHEN A TRAIL OF DEAD MEN LED HIM TO A SINISTER JAPANESE PLOT AGAINST THE VICTORY!

OUR STORY BEGINS SHORTLY AFTER JAPAN'S DEFEAT. DENNIS QUINN, EX FLYING ACE, RETURNS TO A HOTEL ROOM IN SHANGHAI...

NOW FOR SOME NEEDED REST!



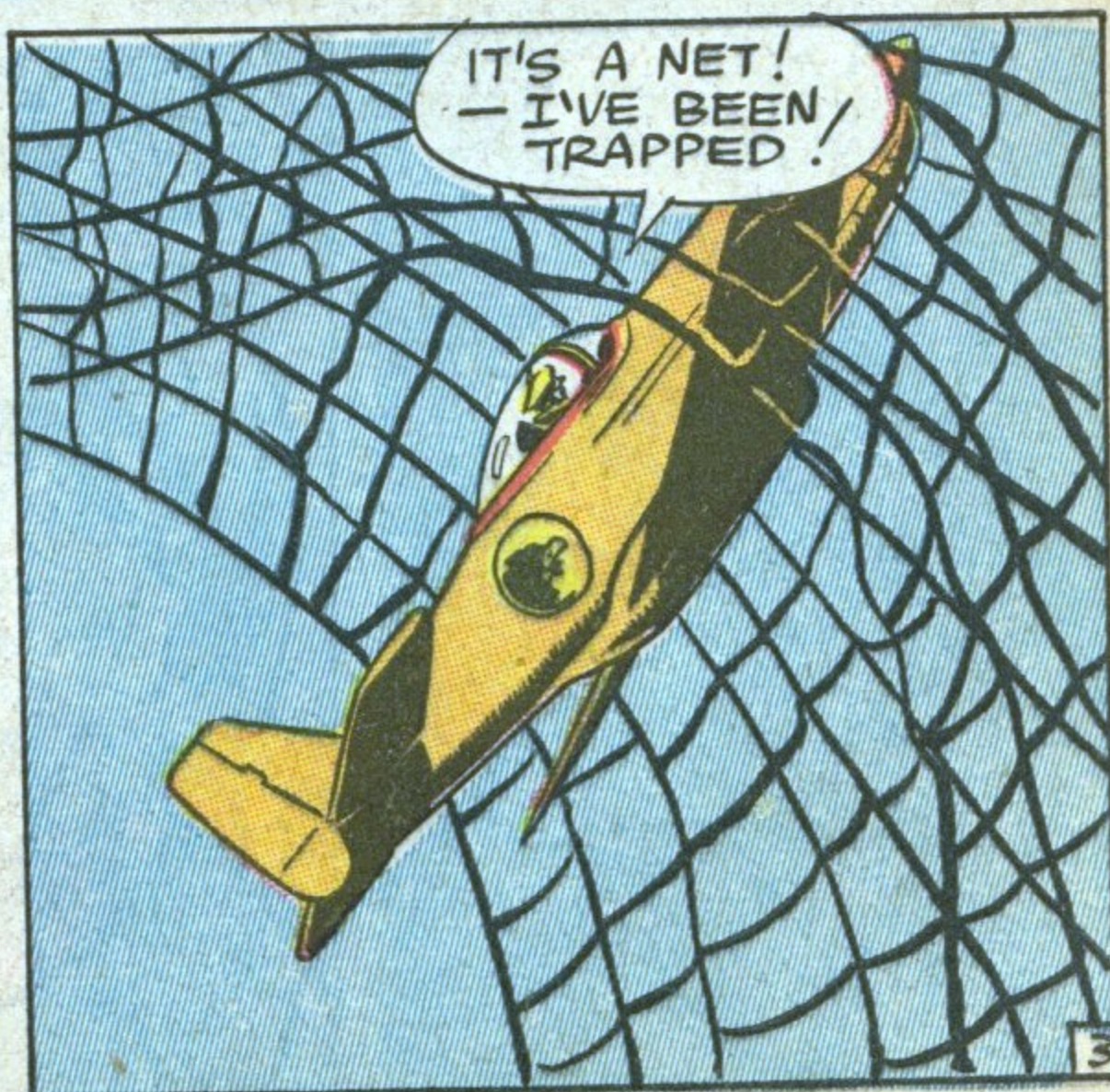
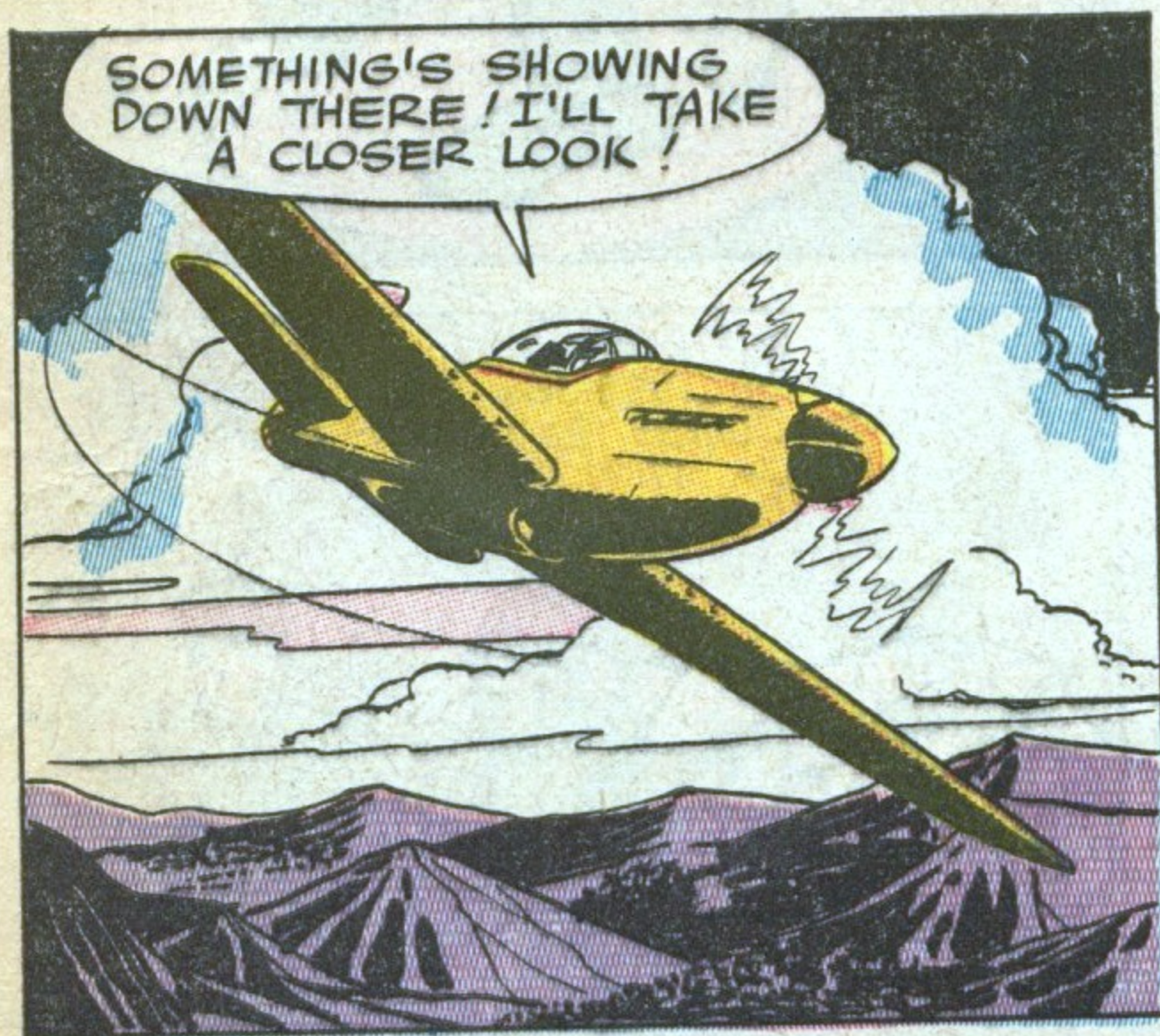
WHA... A DEAD MAN IN MY ROOM!...







SOON AFTER THE GOLDEN
EAGLE TAKES OFF!

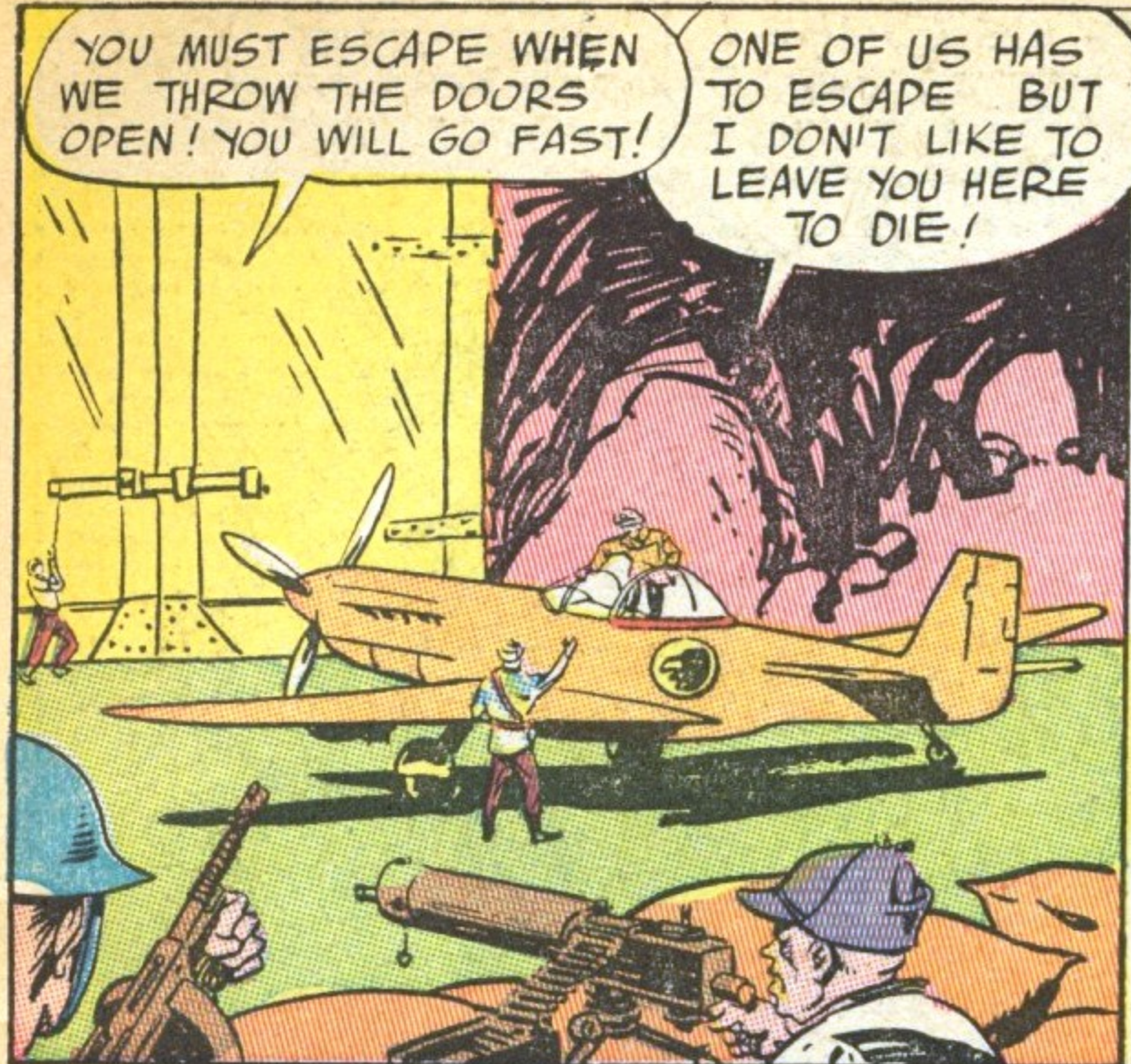


TRAPPED OR NOT, GOLDEN EAGLE FIGHTS!



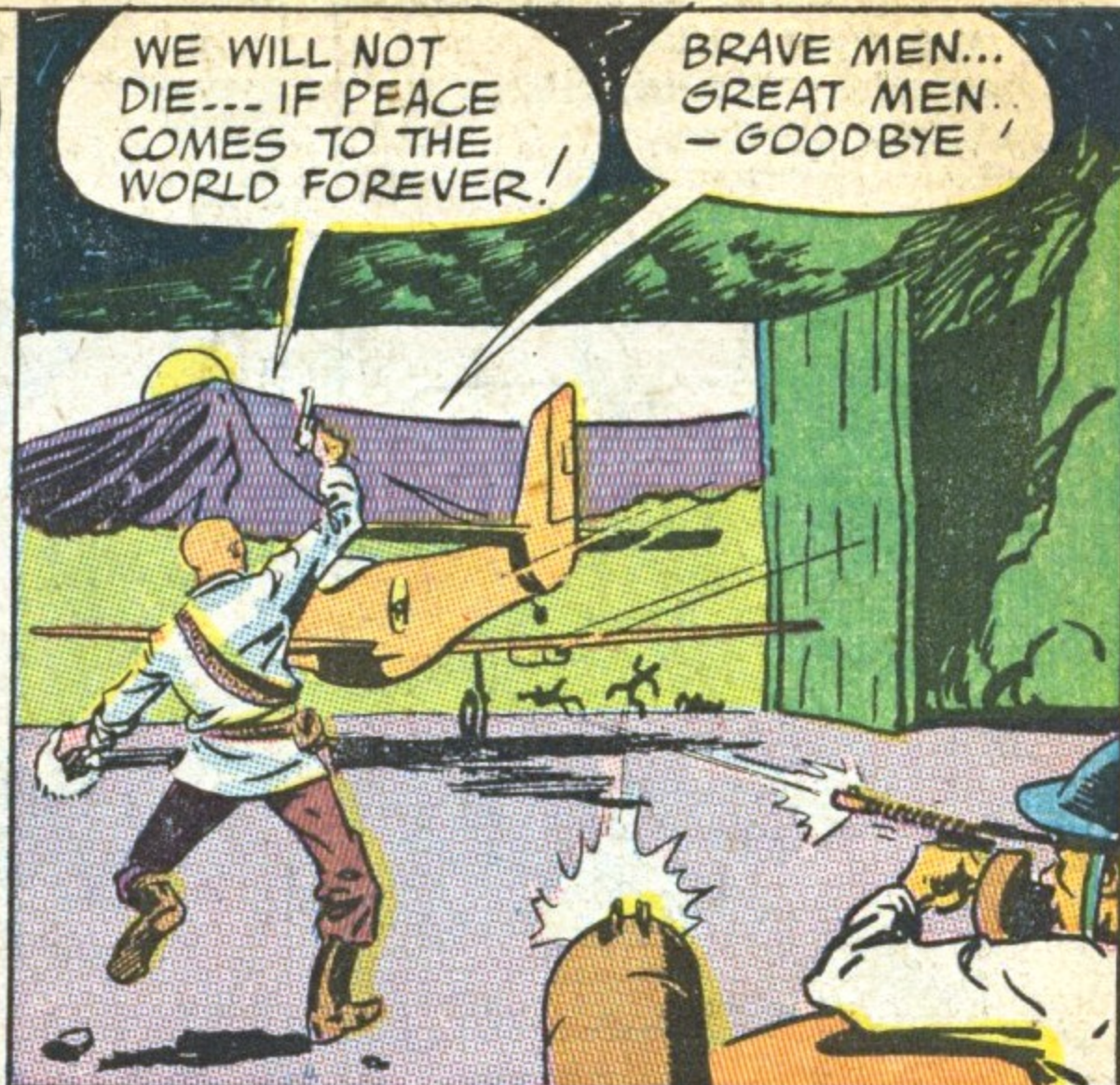






YOU MUST ESCAPE WHEN WE THROW THE DOORS OPEN! YOU WILL GO FAST!

ONE OF US HAS TO ESCAPE BUT I DON'T LIKE TO LEAVE YOU HERE TO DIE!

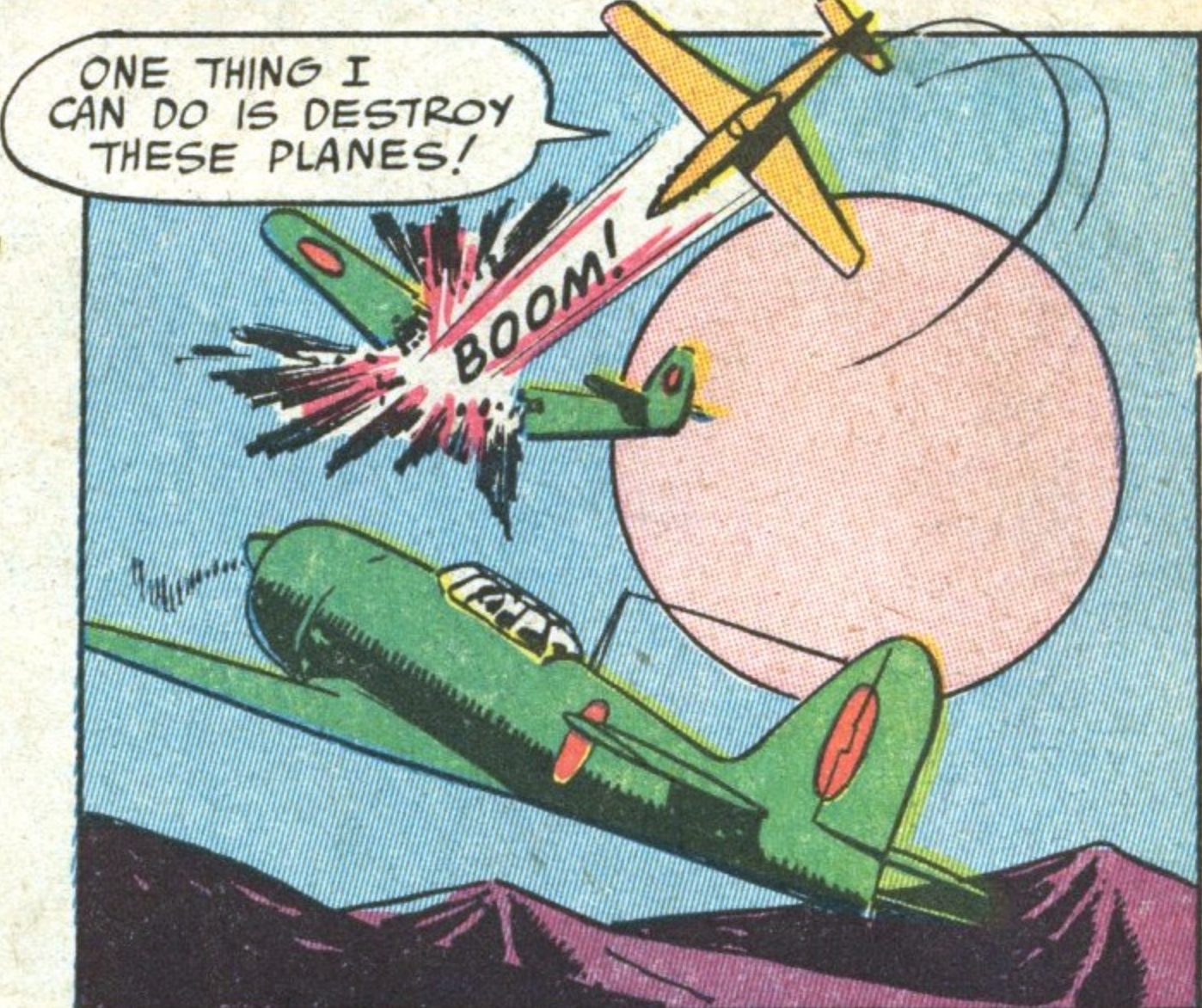


WE WILL NOT DIE... IF PEACE COMES TO THE WORLD FOREVER!

BRAVE MEN... GREAT MEN... - GOODBYE!



I'LL DO ALL I CAN TO PAY BACK THIS DEBT, AND TO CARRY THEIR MESSAGE TO THE ALLIED NATIONS!



ONE THING I CAN DO IS DESTROY THESE PLANES!



THREE GONE! - BUT I CAN'T SAVE THOSE CHINESE HEROES!



THAT'S IT! - I CAN WIPE OUT THIS JAP DUMP!



GOLDEN EAGLE SENDS HIS PLANE SCREAMING STRAIGHT AT THE MOUNTAINSIDE!

THERE'S JUST A CHANCE THAT THIS WILL WORK, WITHOUT KILLING ME TOO!

USING THE SKIP
BOMBING TECHNIQUE,
GOLDEN EAGLE...



... LAUNCHES HIS BOMBS!

THAT'S THE END
OF HONORABLE,
VERY CLEVER
PLOT!



BUT THOSE
FINE GUERILLAS
DIED TOO! AMERICA
MUST KNOW ABOUT
THEM!



TWO DAYS LATER, IN A CERTAIN
HOUSE IN WASHINGTON...

SO THAT'S THE END OF
HIDDEN VALLEY... BUT IT
ISN'T THE END OF
JAPANESE PLOTTING!



NOT UNLESS THE
JAPANESE SYSTEM IS
CRUSHED TO A
POWDER! THAT'S THE
ONLY WAY TO DO IT...
AND THAT'S WHY
THOSE MEN DIED...
AND OUR OWN!

I WILL PLEDGE
THEY DIDN'T DIE
IN VAIN...



THE END.

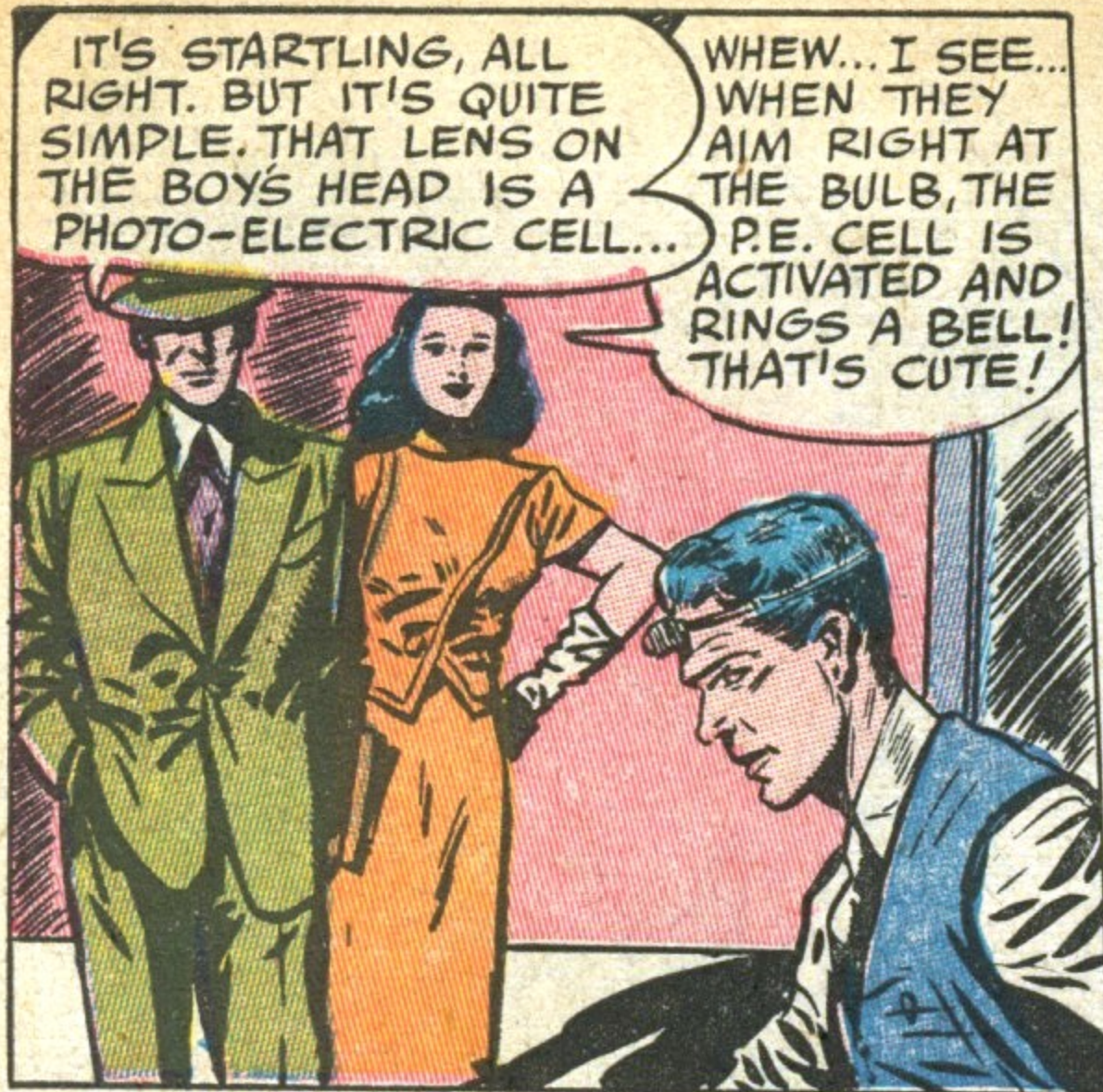


EVER WONDER ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO BECOME OF OUR WAR HEROES WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR ALL... NOT THE ONES WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE AND DIED IN DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY BUT THE OTHERS, THE LAME, THE HALT... AND THE BLIND?



MARY ROCHE, WHO IS THE BLACK VENUS, IS STARTLED

THIS IS ASTOUNDING... BLIND MEN BOWLING...





MOMENTARILY MARY IS UNDECIDED...

SURE YOU CAN HELP...
— COME ON, HURRY!

YOU... YOU DON'T THINK I'LL BE IN THE WAY?



MINUTES LATER...

HELLO? LICENSE BUREAU? IS THIS CHARLEY? LISTEN... THIS IS THE BLACK VENUS AND I NEED HELP. FIND OUT WHO OWNS A CAR WITH THE LICENSE CD 465370...



1260 BAIN STREET... WE'RE OFF, ARAGO...

I JUST HOPE I WON'T BE IN THE WAY!



The BLACK VENUS WASTES NO TIME...

IT MAY NOT BE ACCORDING TO EMILY POST, BUT HERE'S OUR ENTRANCE...

SHH... I HEAR FEET!



IT'S ALL RIGHT!... THE FOOTSTEPS ARE GOING AWAY!

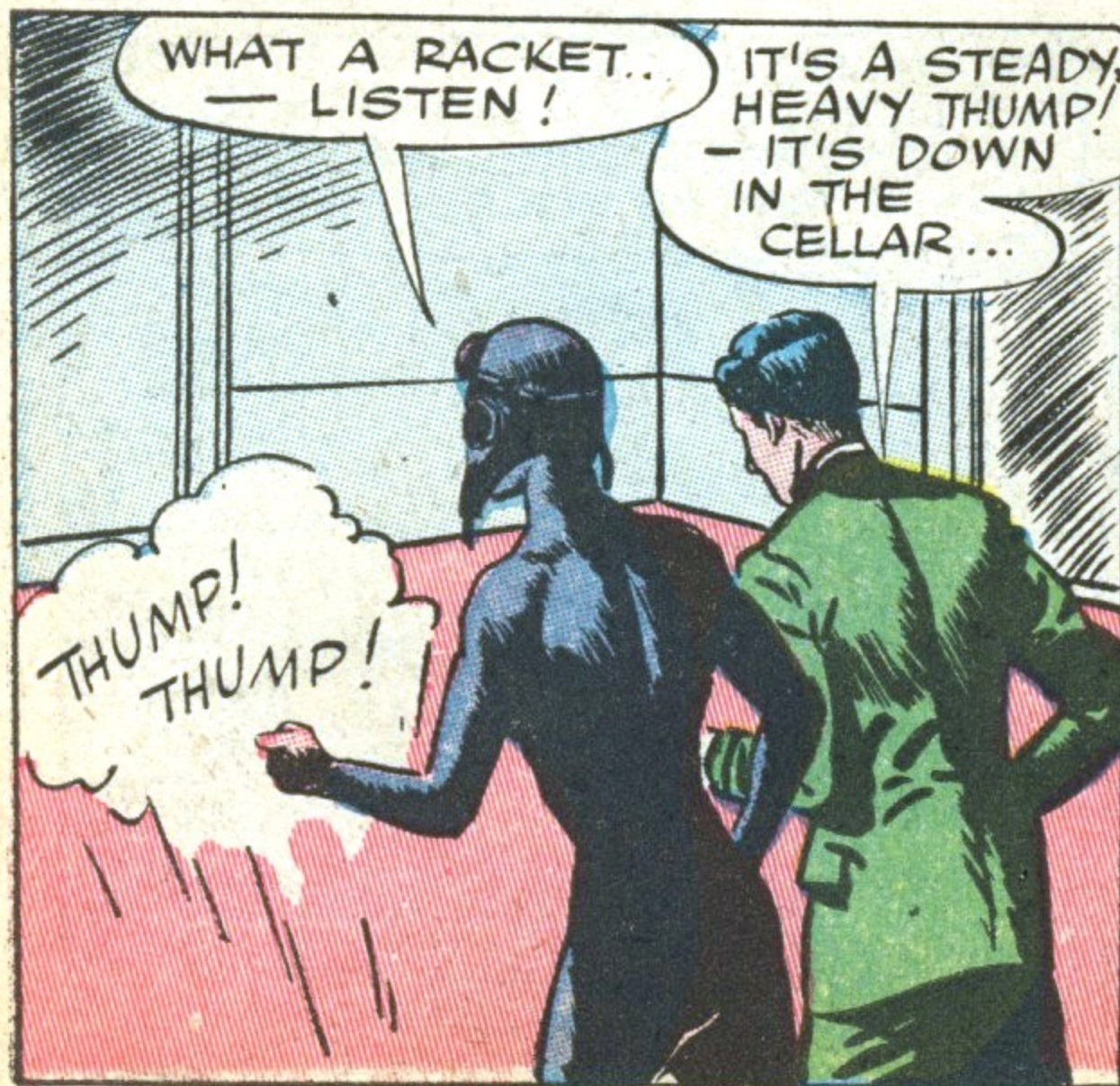
FROM HERE ON, MAKE LIKE A MUMMY!



WHAT A RACKET.. — LISTEN!

IT'S A STEADY, HEAVY THUMP! — IT'S DOWN IN THE CELLAR...

THUMP! THUMP!



BLACK VENUS AND ARAGO FOLLOW THE SOUNDS OF THE FOOTSTEPS.





VENUS...
BEHIND
YOU!
I HEAR...

I'LL BEAT THE HEADS
OFF YOU... BREAKING
IN HERE...

HUFF..



BLACK VENUS REACHES UP, GRABS
THE DESCENDING ARM AND THROWS
THE VILLAIN OVER HER HEAD.



IF IT'S DARK IN HERE,
LEAVE HIM TO ME! YOU
SEE WHAT'S COOKIN'
DOWNSTAIRS...

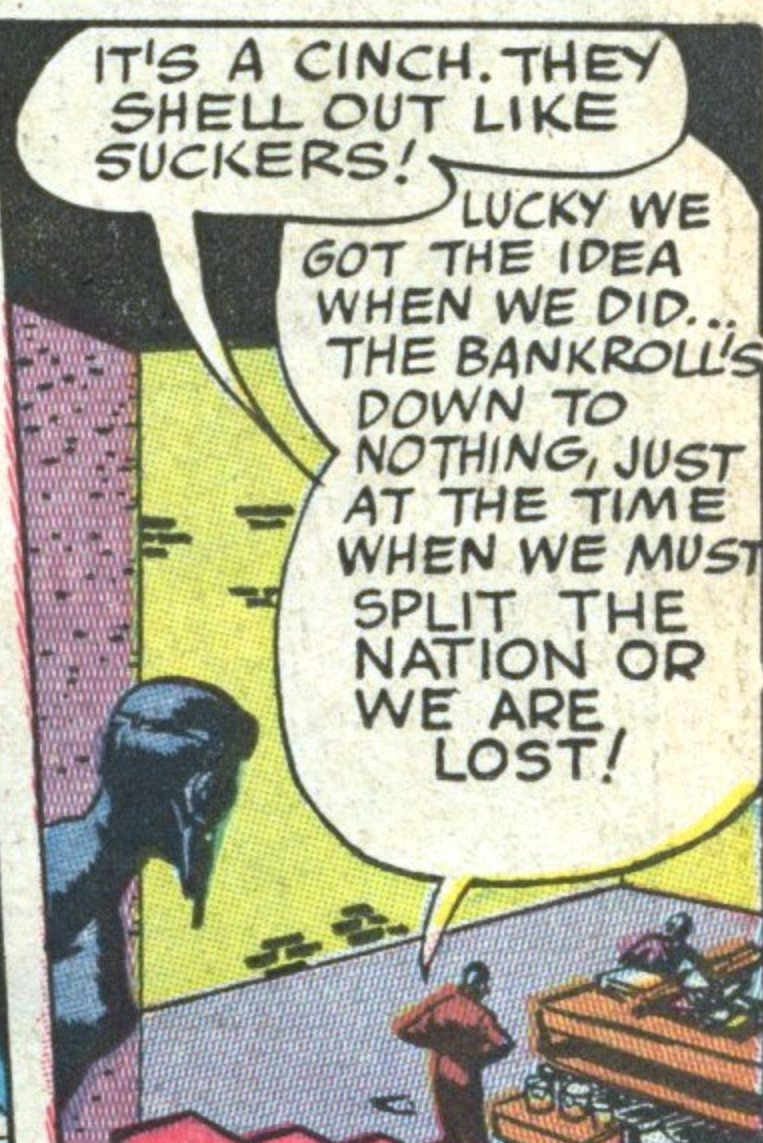
IT IS DARK;
IT'S PITCH
BLACK... BUT DO
YOU THINK...

...I'D
BETTER
LET HIM OR
HE'LL THINK
I'M BABYING
HIM...



IN THE DARK, ALL
MEN ARE BLIND!

WHEN MY EYES WERE
TAKEN... MY EARS
IMPROVED! IT'S
ALMOST AS IF I
COULD SEE HIM...
HE'S BREATHING
HEAVILY...



IT'S A CINCH. THEY
SHELL OUT LIKE
SUCKERS!

LUCKY WE
GOT THE IDEA
WHEN WE DID...
THE BANKROLL'S
DOWN TO
NOTHING, JUST
AT THE TIME
WHEN WE MUST
SPLIT THE
NATION OR
WE ARE
LOST!



WHAT'S THAT
CLUMSY OAF
DOING NOW?

THUMP!
THUMP!

PROBABLY
STUMBLER
OVER HIS OWN
FEET... I BETTER
SEE WHAT'S
UP!



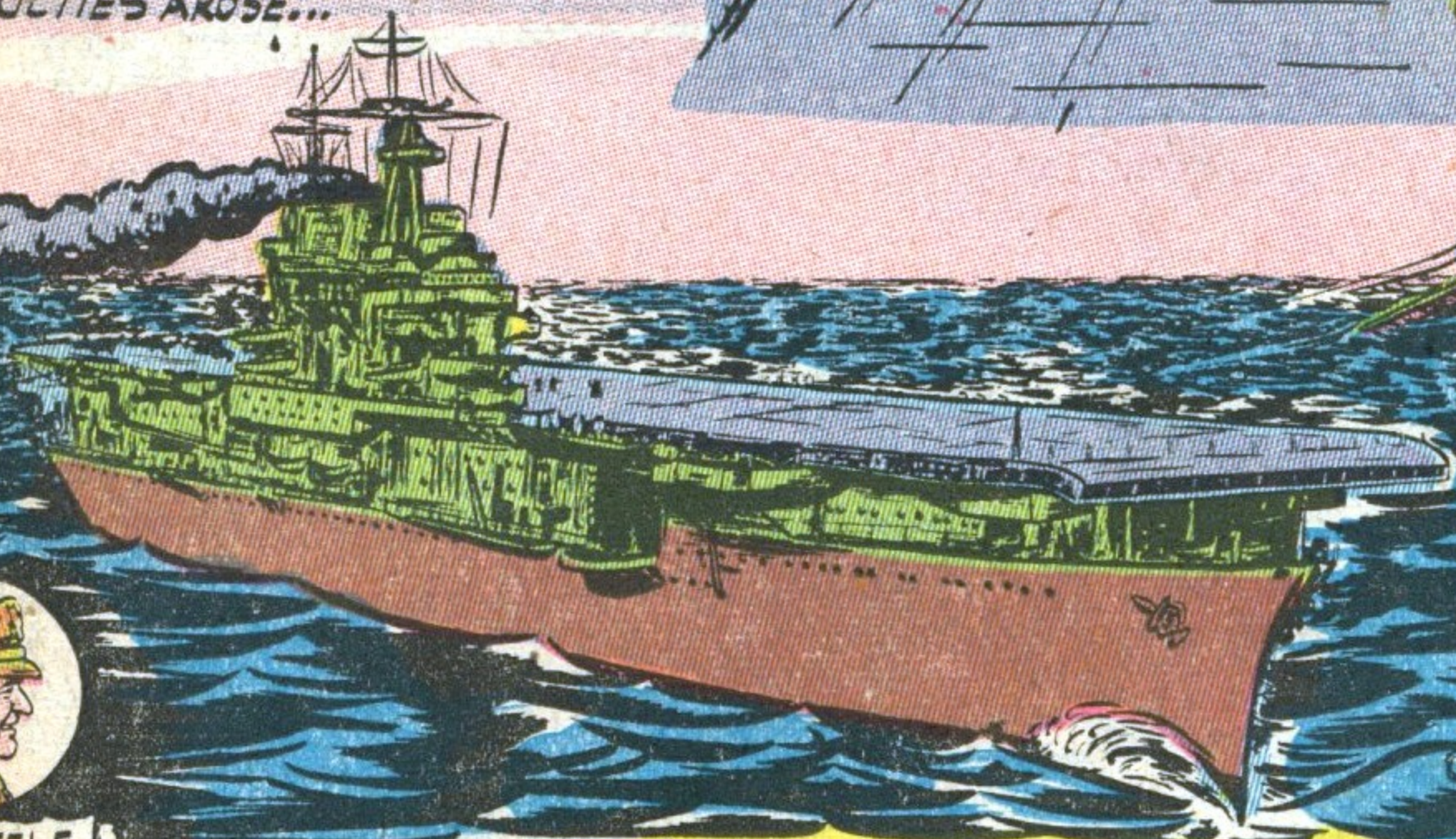
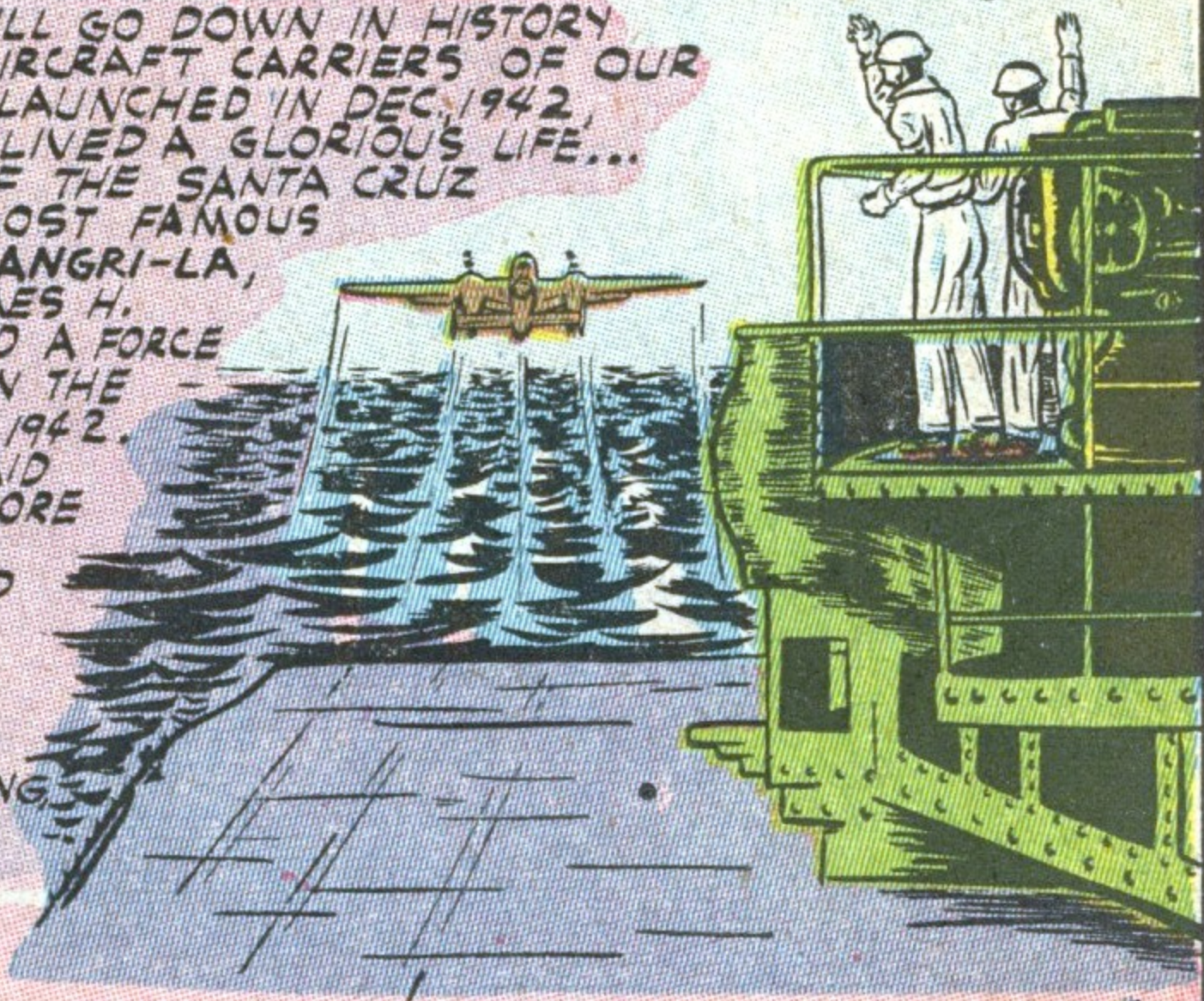
YOU MEAN YOU
BETTER SEE
WHAT'S DOWN.

WHAT
THE...



SHANGRI-LA

THE MIGHTY CARRIER HORNET WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS ONE OF THE GREATEST AIRCRAFT CARRIERS OF OUR NAVY... FROM THE TIME IT WAS LAUNCHED IN DEC. 1942, THIS FIGHTING 20,000 TONNER LIVED A GLORIOUS LIFE... IT WAS SUNK IN THE BATTLE OFF THE SANTA CRUZ ISLAND ON OCT. 26, 1942... IT'S MOST FAMOUS FEAT WAS THAT OF PLAYING SHANGRI-LA, THE BASE FROM WHICH LT. COL. JAMES H. DOOLITTLE (NOW LT. GEN. DOOLITTLE) LED A FORCE OF 16 NORTH AMERICAN BOMBERS ON THE FIRST RAID ON TOKYO, ON APRIL 18, 1942. THE MEN PARTICIPATING IN THIS RAID WERE SCHOOLED FOR WEEKS BEFORE THE HORNET TOOK THE B-25'S ABOARD. THE ORIGINAL PLAN CALLED FOR THE PLANES TO LEAVE THE HORNET A LITTLE BEFORE DARK AND ATTACK JAPAN AT NIGHT SO THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE CHINA BY EARLY MORNING. HOWEVER, UNEXPECTED DIFFICULTIES AROSE...

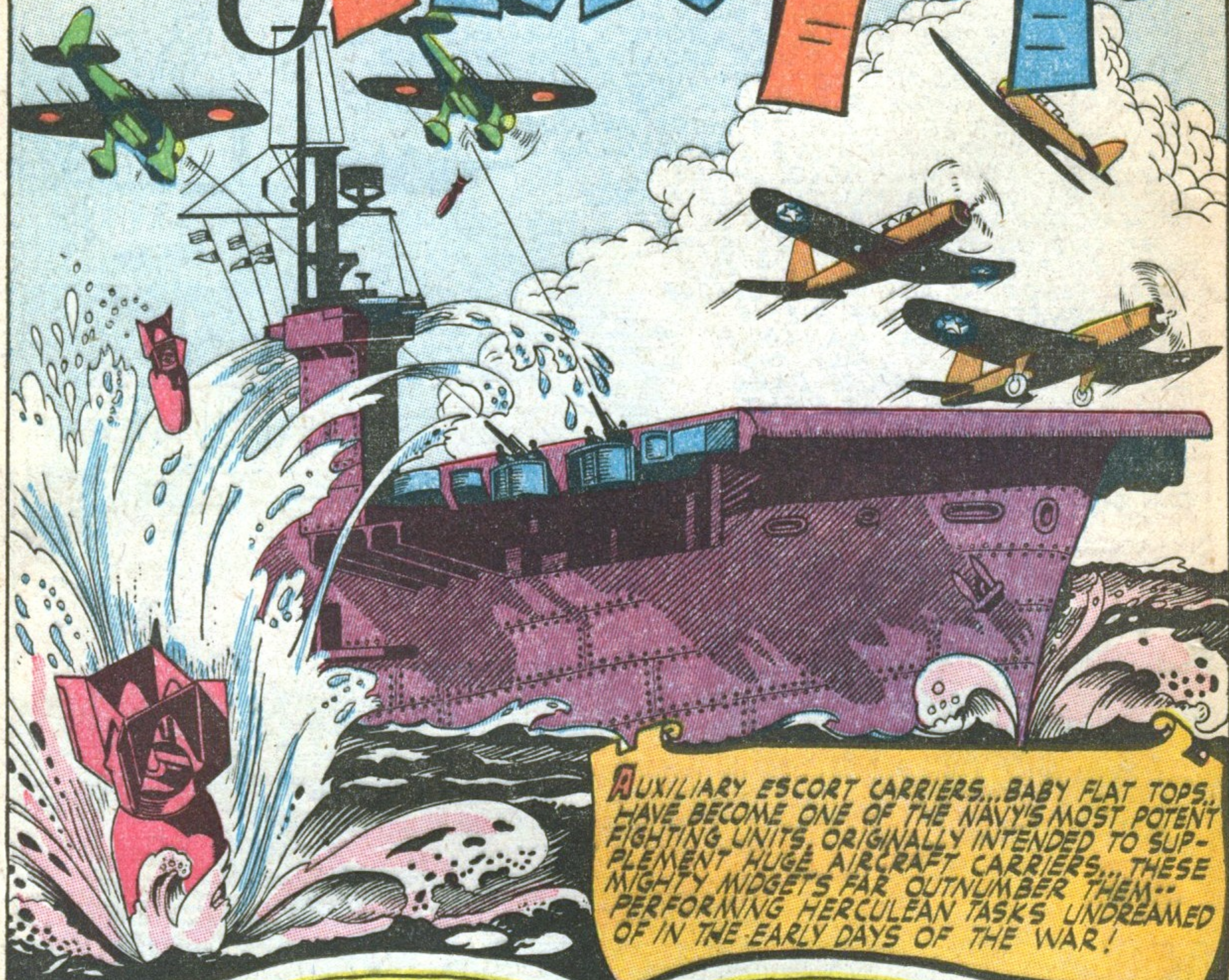


DOOLITTLE

THE HORNET HAD ALREADY STEERED CLEAR OF ENEMY PATROL SHIPS BUT WAS SPOTTED BY A SMALL FISHING BOAT. THE CARRIER QUICKLY SANK HER BUT IT WAS FEARED THAT THE JAP HAD RADIOED A WARNING TO THE NIPPON HOMELAND.. SO ABOUT 800 MILES FROM TOKYO, AND TEN HOURS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, DOOLITTLE LEFT THE CARRIER WITH 15 OTHER BOMBERS, AND RAIDED TOKYO BY DAYLIGHT.. THE HORNET COVERED ITSELF WITH OTHER GLORY IN THE WATERS OFF GUADALCANAL.. ITS PLANES RAIDED JAP BASES IN THE SOLOMONS, DESTROYED MANY SMALL CRAFT AT BUIN- AREA OF BOUGAINVILLE AND REKATA BAY- AREA OF SANTA ISABEL ISLAND.. ON OCT. 26, 1942, OFF SANTA CRUZ, THE HORNET WAS SENT TO A GALLANT DEATH BY TWO OF OUR OWN DESTROYERS, TEN HOURS AFTER SHE HAD BEEN BADLY CRIPPLED BY THE ENEMY...

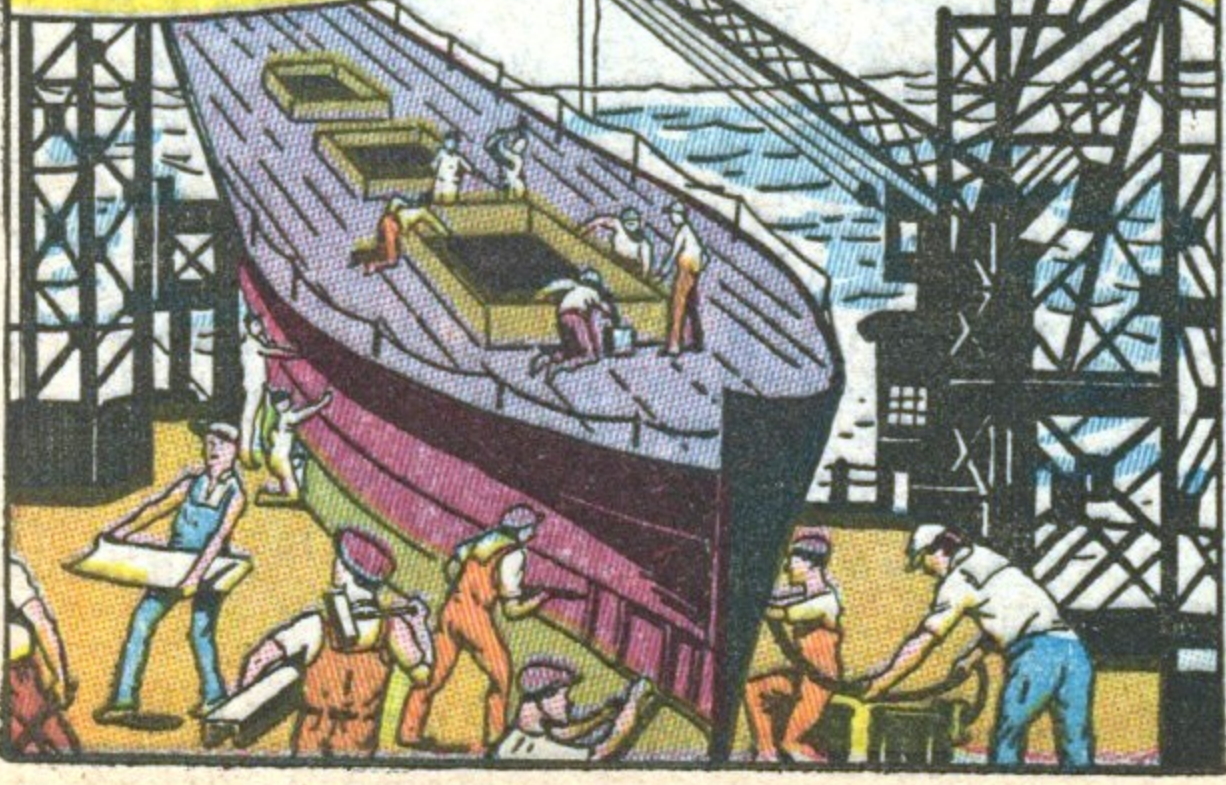


Baby Flat Top

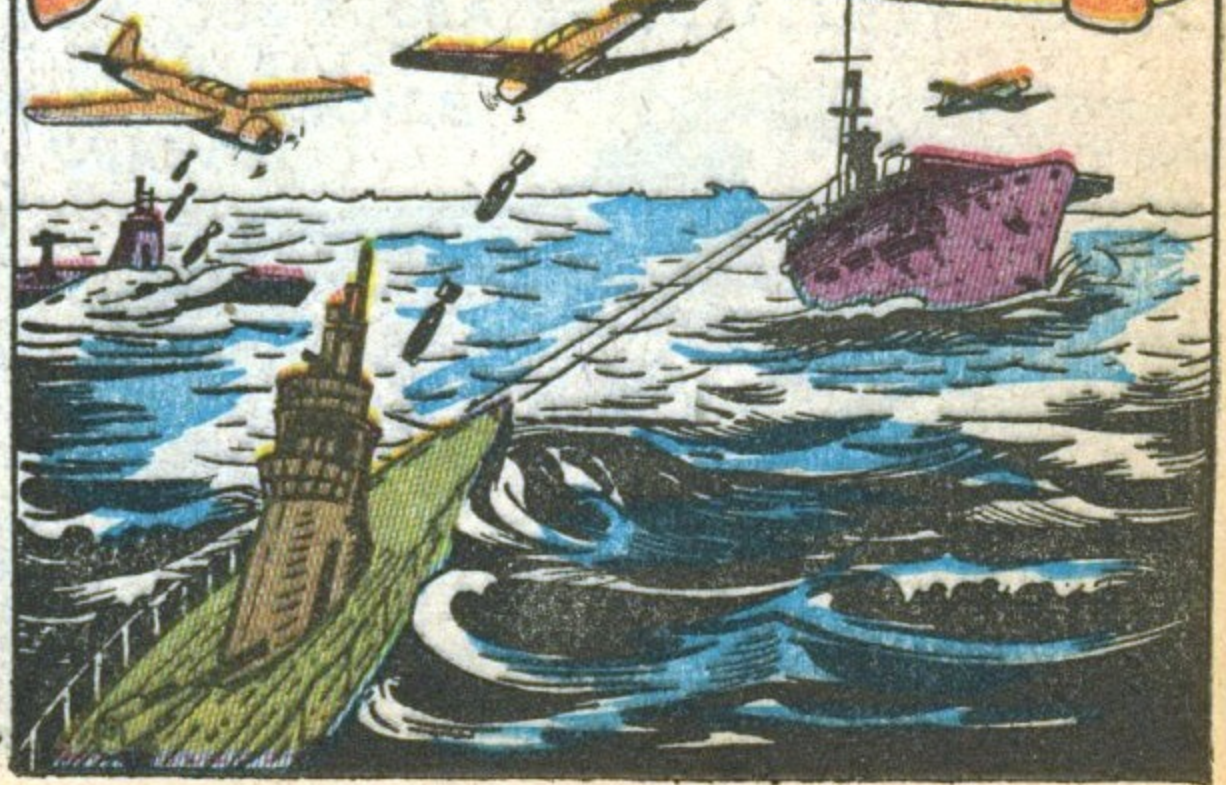


AUXILIARY ESCORT CARRIERS...BABY FLAT TOPS... HAVE BECOME ONE OF THE NAVY'S MOST POTENT FIGHTING UNITS. ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT HUGE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS... THESE MIGHTY WIDGETS FAR OUTNUMBER THEM-- PERFORMING HERCULEAN TASKS UNDREAMED OF IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR!

AT FIRST, BABY FLAT TOPS WERE CONVERTED MERCHANT SHIPS... OR MADE OVER TANKERS!



THE CARRIERS WERE USED PRINCIPALLY TO CONQUER WOLF PACKS!



BUT NOW IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY--AS ONE PARTICULAR G.I. GOB DISCOVERED FOR HIMSELF!

WELL, JOE! WE'VE FINISHED OUR TRAINING FOR CARRIER DUTY!

YEAH...BUT I'M AFRAID LIFE ON A BABY FLAT TOP IS GONNA BE PRETTY DULL!



LATER...JOE AND HIS FRIEND ARE ASSIGNED TO A NEW \$11,000,000 AUXILIARY ESCORT CARRIER.

BOY...WHAT A FLIGHT DECK!

GOLLY, MACK, IT'S BIGGER THAN A FOOTBALL FIELD!



COME ON! LET'S GIVE THE CARRIER THE ONCE OVER!

O.K., JOE!



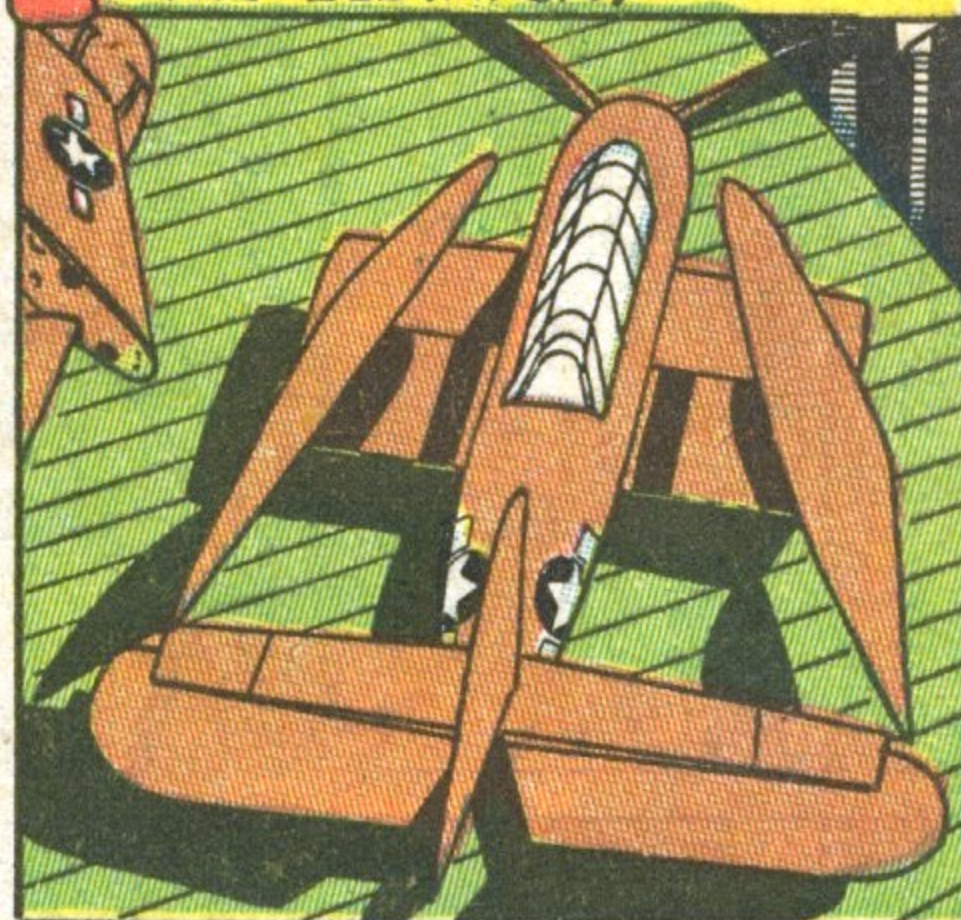
FIRST, THEY VISIT THE HANGAR DECK, WHICH IS ALIVE WITH ACTIVITY!

THEY SURE CAN PACK THOSE PLANES IN, HUH, JOE?

I'LL SAY! BUT LOOK, HERE COMES A PLANE DOWN FROM THE FLIGHT DECK!

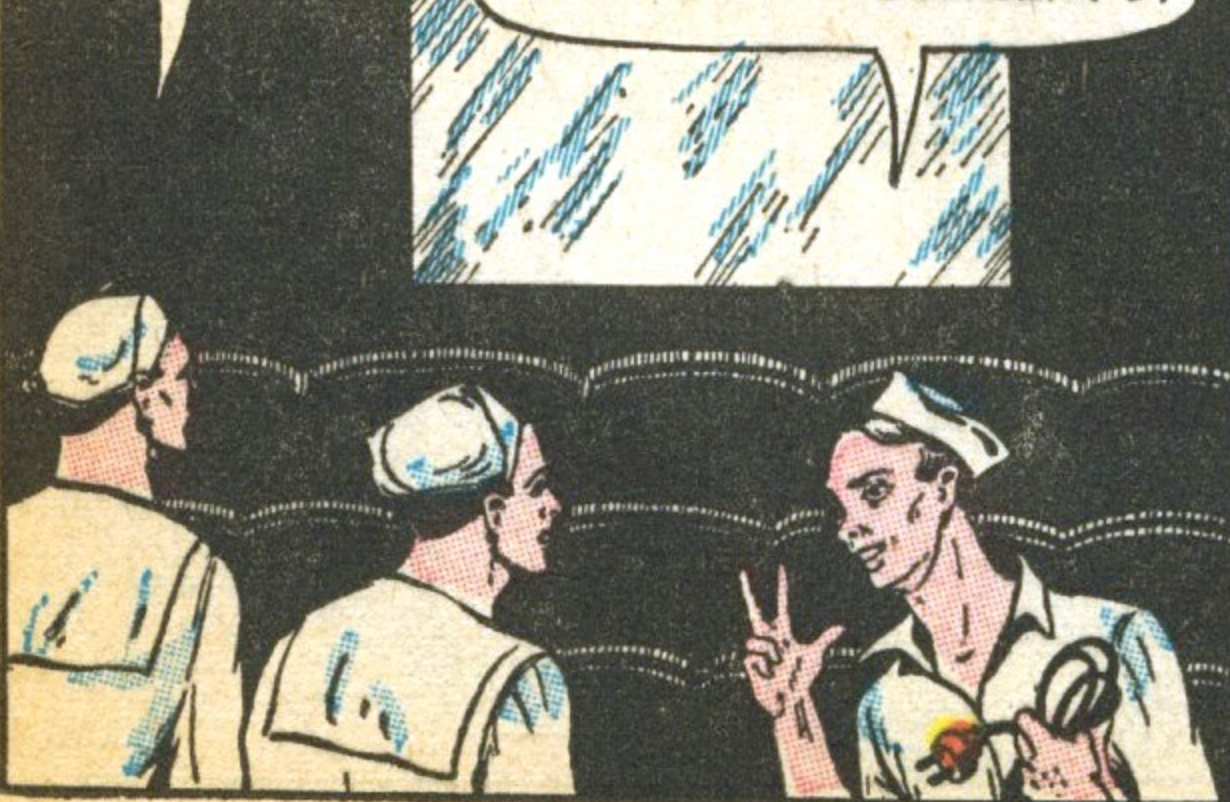


WITH WINGS FOLDED...A TORPEDO BOMBER IS PUSHED OFF THE ELEVATOR!



DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME--OR IS THAT A MOVIE SCREEN?

SURE, SAILOR, WE HAVE TALKIES OFTEN--AND WHAT'S MORE, WE EVEN HAVE AN ORGAN AND PIANO FOR CONCERTS!



LOOK--A GAME OF BASKETBALL! I DIDN'T KNOW WE'D HAVE TIME FOR THAT!

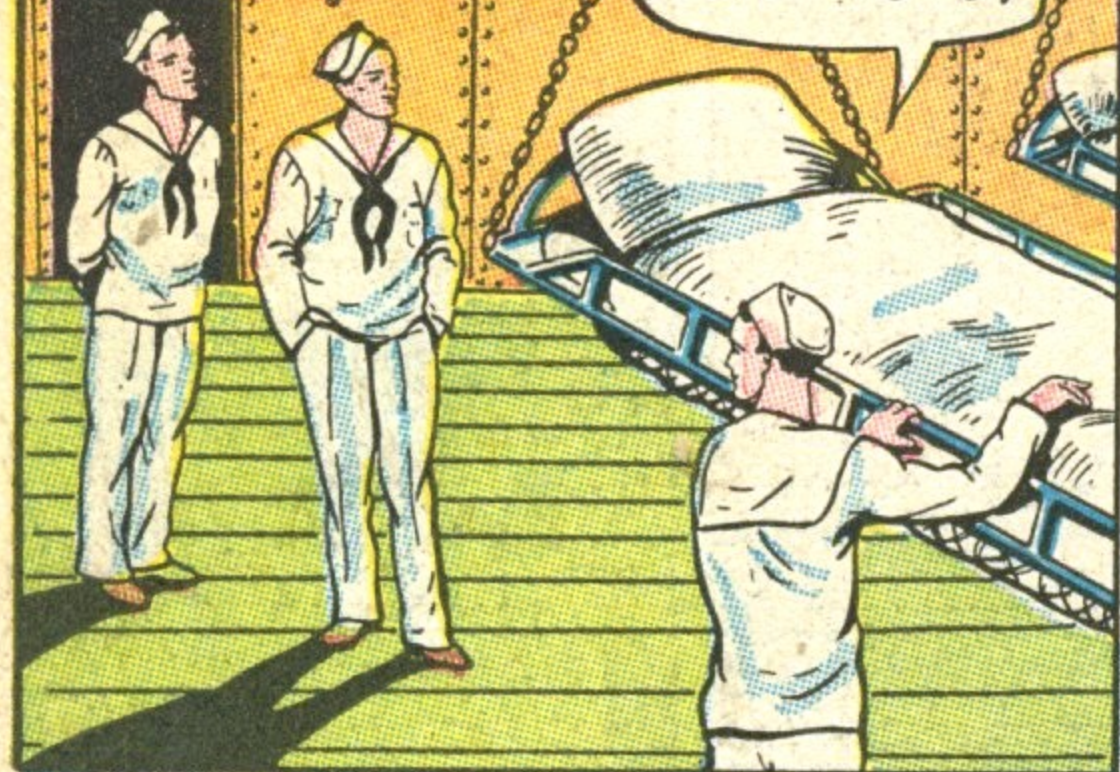
OH YES! WE PLAY VOLLEY BALL TOO--AND LOTS OF OTHER SPORTS, WE'VE GOTTA KEEP FIT, YOU KNOW!



THEN JOE AND MACK VISIT THE BUNK ROOM!

MACK! REAL BUNKS...NO MORE HAMMOCKS!

BROTHER, ONLY THE BEST FOR MEN ON BABY FLAT TOPS!



NEXT...THEY VISIT THE SICK BAY!

THIS IS ONE PLACE I HOPE I DON'T GET TO KNOW VERY WELL!

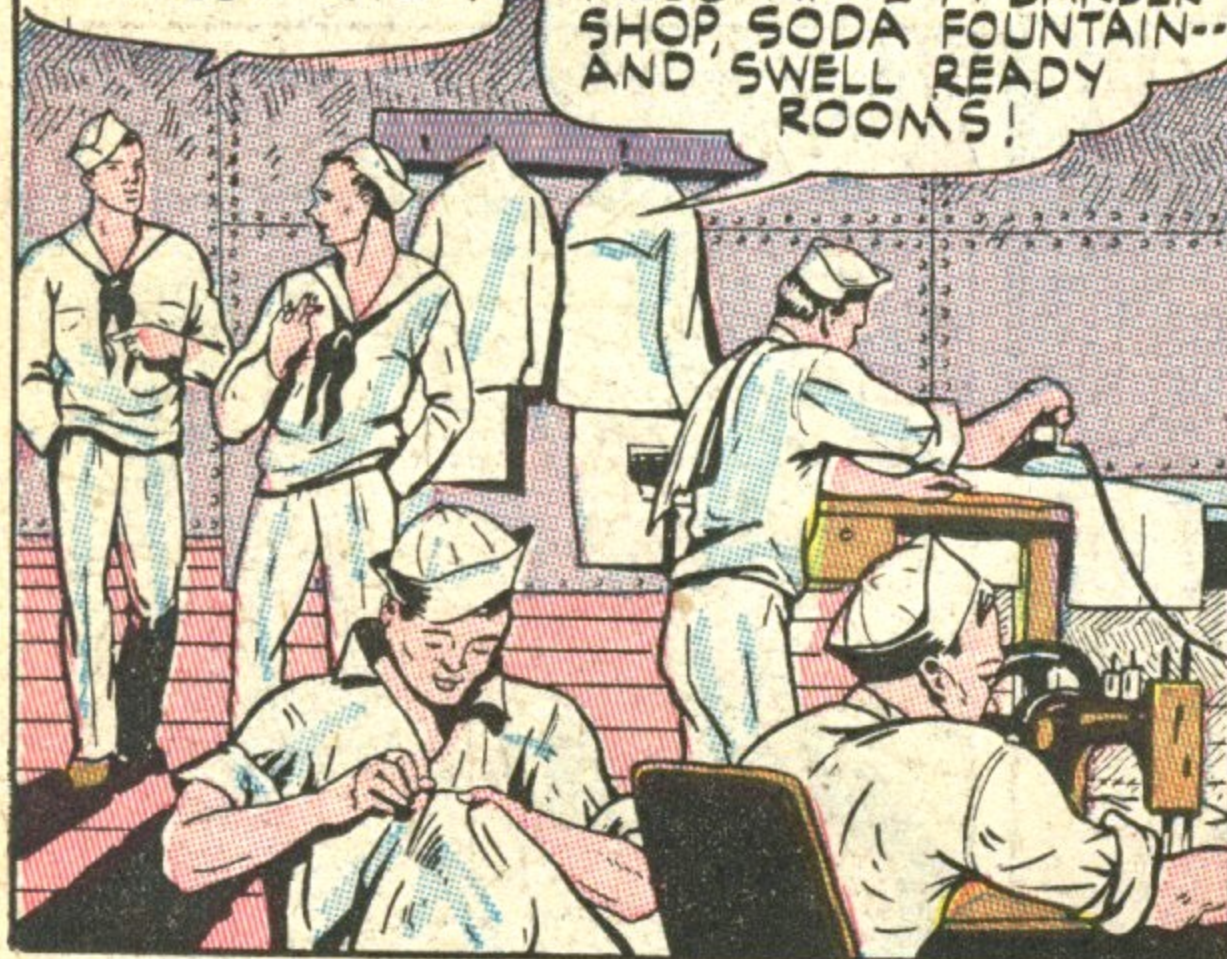
BUT YOU CERTAINLY DO GET GOOD SERVICE!



A FEW MINUTES LATER.

SUFFERING CATS! A TAILOR SHOP!

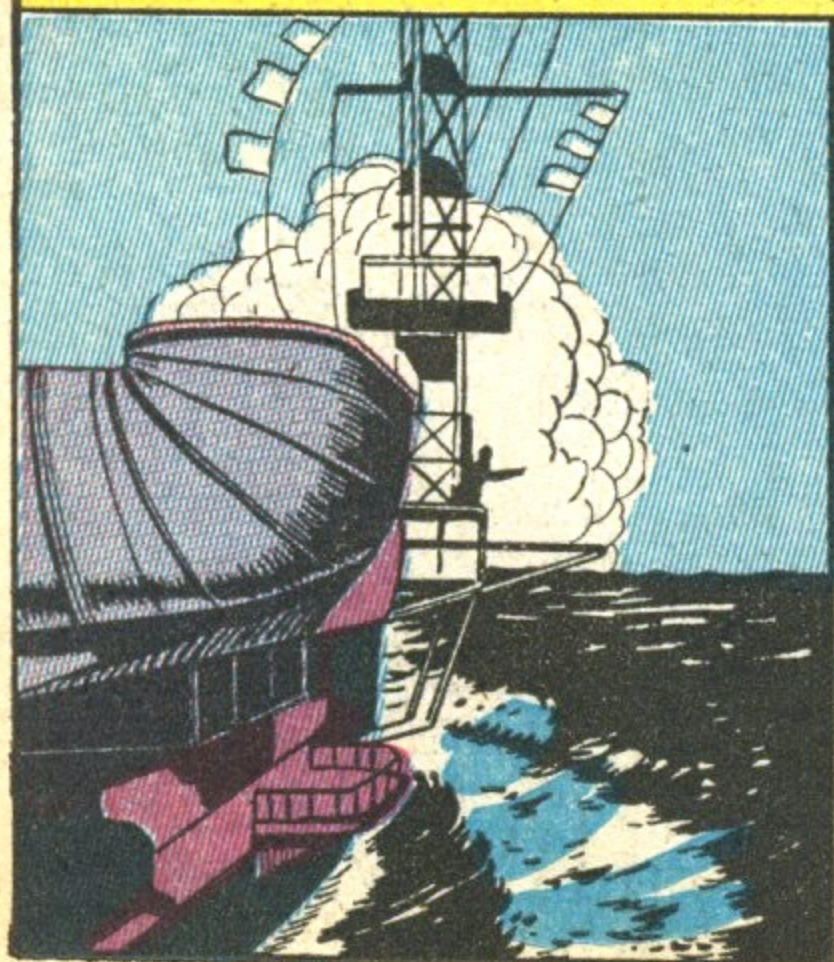
AND I HEAR THEY ALSO HAVE A BARBER SHOP, SODA FOUNTAIN--AND SWELL READY ROOMS!



ON THE WAY TO THE TORPEDO ROOM... JOE AND MACK STOP TO WATCH THE OFFICER OF THE DECK AND HIS "TELEPHONE MAN"--AN INSEPARABLE TEAM WHO SUPPLY THE CREW WITH VITAL INFORMATION.



THEN...JOE POINTS OUT A UNIQUE SMOKESTACK..AND AN ISLAND ON THE STARBOARD SIDE OF THE CARRIER.



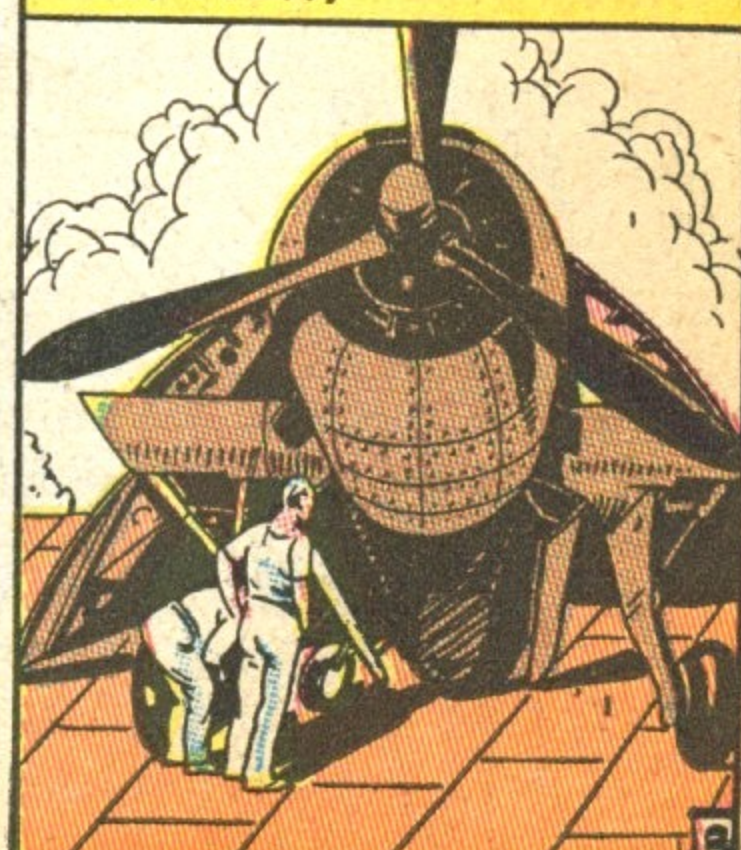
IN THE TORPEDO ROOM...JOE AND MACK OBSERVE THAT THE TORPEDOES ARE CAREFULLY STORED ON RACKS!

HOW OFTEN DO YOU GREASE THOSE BABIES?

THEY'RE GREASED AND CHECKED EVERY DAY!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, THEY WATCH AS THE BOMB BAY DOORS OF A GRUMAN AVENGER OPEN TO RECEIVE ANOTHER TIN FISH!

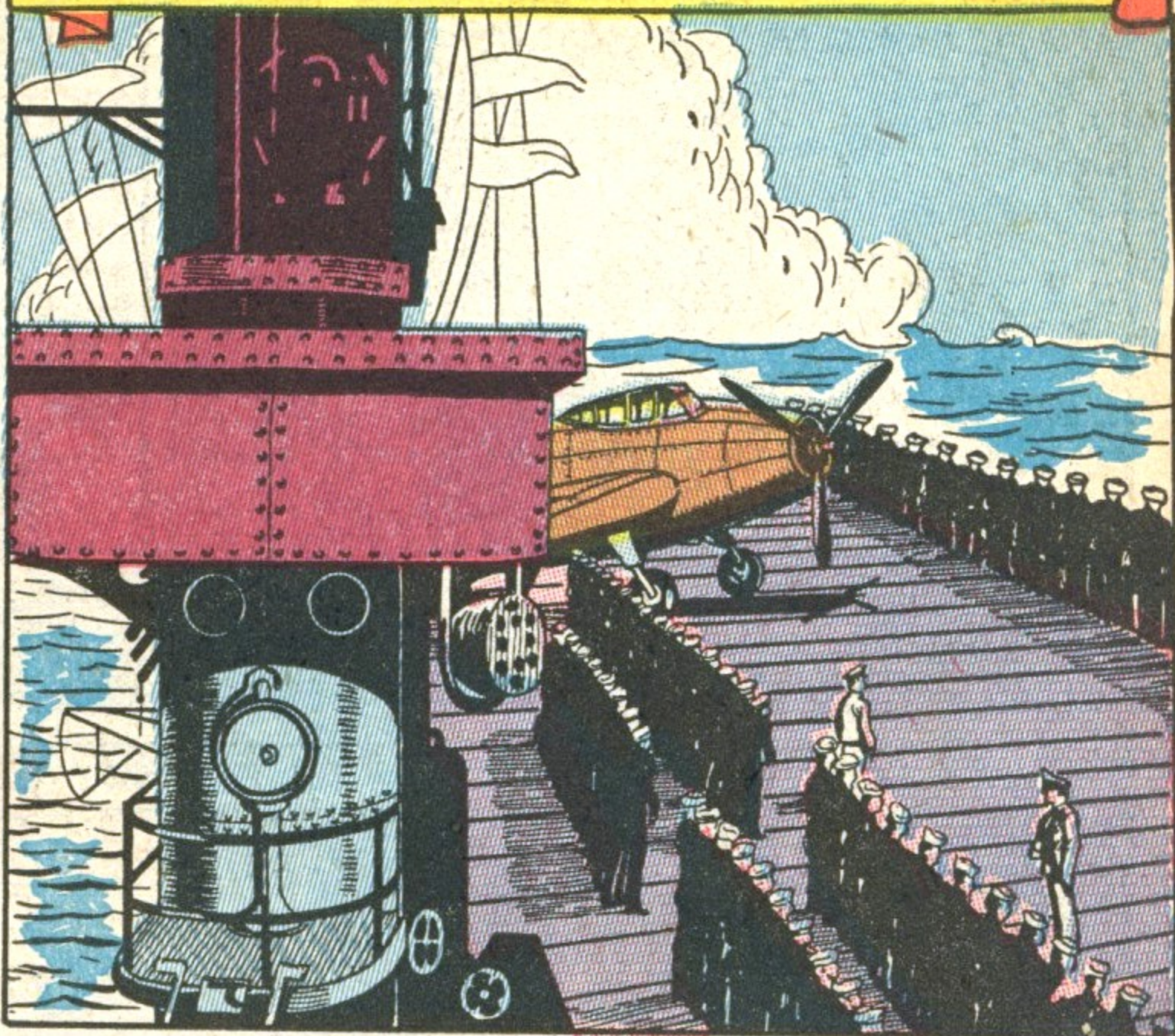


ON THE WAY BACK TO THE BUNK ROOM, JOE AND MACK WATCH A CONVERSATION WITH FLAGS



THAT'S ONE WAY TO TALK WITHOUT THE ENEMY HEARING!

THE NEXT MORNING, AT CAPTAIN'S INSPECTION... THE SAILORS STAND AT RIGID ATTENTION-- ONE OF THE FEW TIMES THEY ARE OUT OF DUNGAREES DURING A WAR CRUISE!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

STILL THINK IT'S GONNA BE DULL ON THE FLAT TOP, JOE?

GOSH... NO!



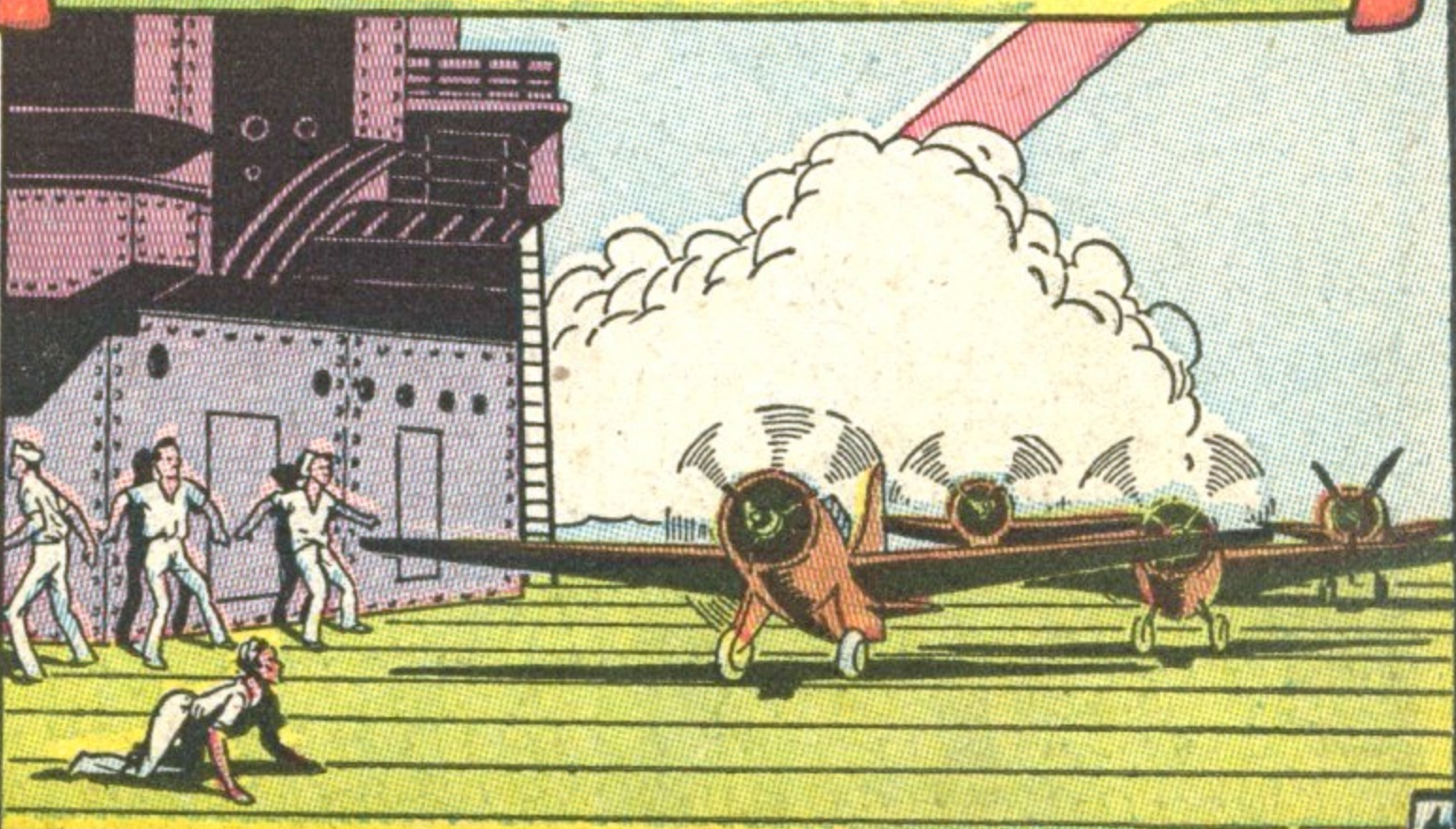
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS AN ALERT IS SOUNDED... AND PILOTS RUSH TO THEIR PLANES... TO DESTROY THE ENEMY CONVOY!



A PILOT USES HAND SIGNALS TO INDICATE THAT HE IS READY TO TAKE OFF!



FLIGHT DECK CREW MEN KNOW HOW TO AVOID BEING BLOWN OVERBOARD BY THE STREAM OF AIR FROM PROPELLERS... AND ARE EXPERT AT DODGING SWERVING PLANE TAILS!



**SOON THE NAVY AIR MEN SPOT A CONVOY
OF JAPANESE MERCHANT SHIPS!**



**WITH DEADLY ACCURACY...THE PLANES
LOOSE THEIR BOMBS ON THE
NIP SHIPS!**



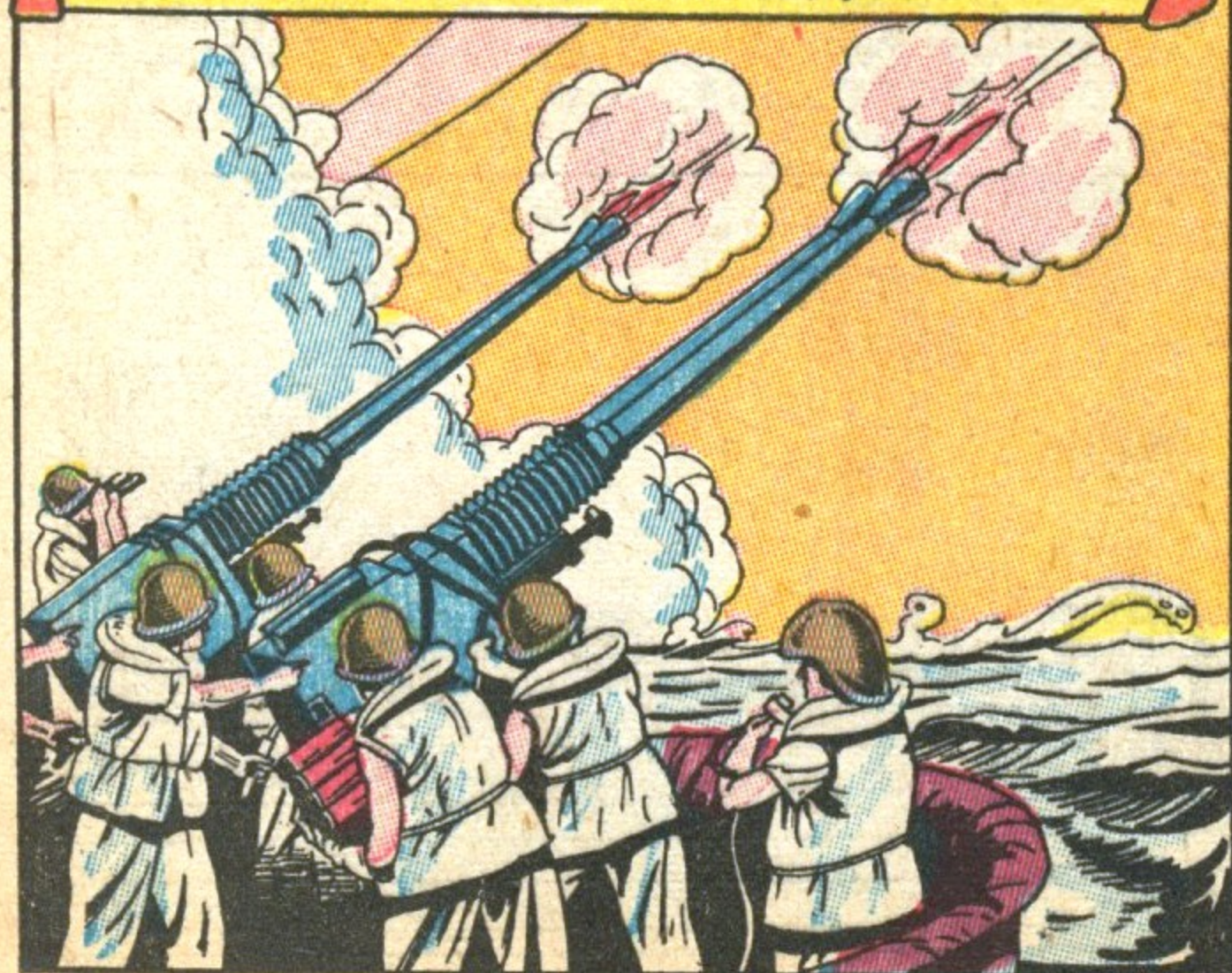
EVERY SHIP IN THE CONVOY IS DESTROYED!



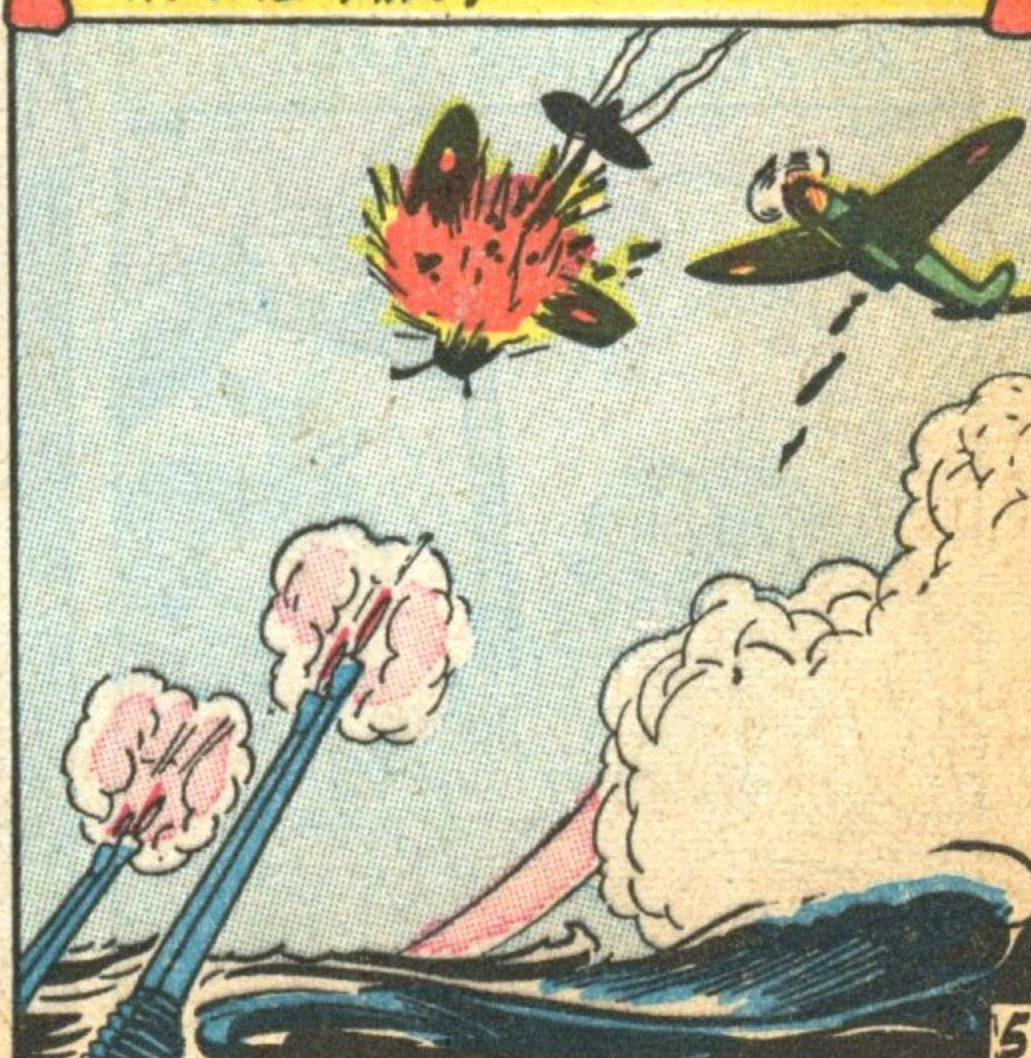
**MEANWHILE TWO JAP
ZEROS APPEAR OUT OF
NOWHERE TO BOMB THE
BABY FLAT TOP!**



**IMMEDIATELY THE CARRIER'S 40 MM. GUN
CREWS SWING INTO ACTION!**



**ONE OF THE ZEROS BURSTS
INTO FLAMES--AND EXPLODES
IN MID-AIR!**



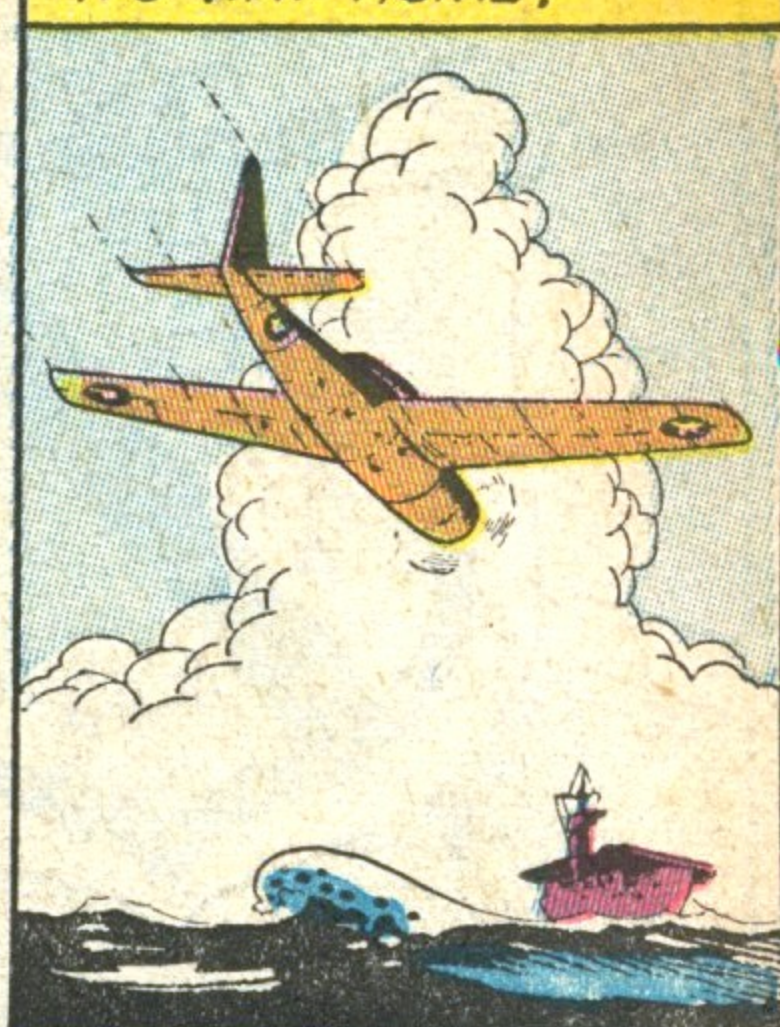
BUT THE SECOND JAP PLANE SCORES A NEAR HIT ON THE SHIP!



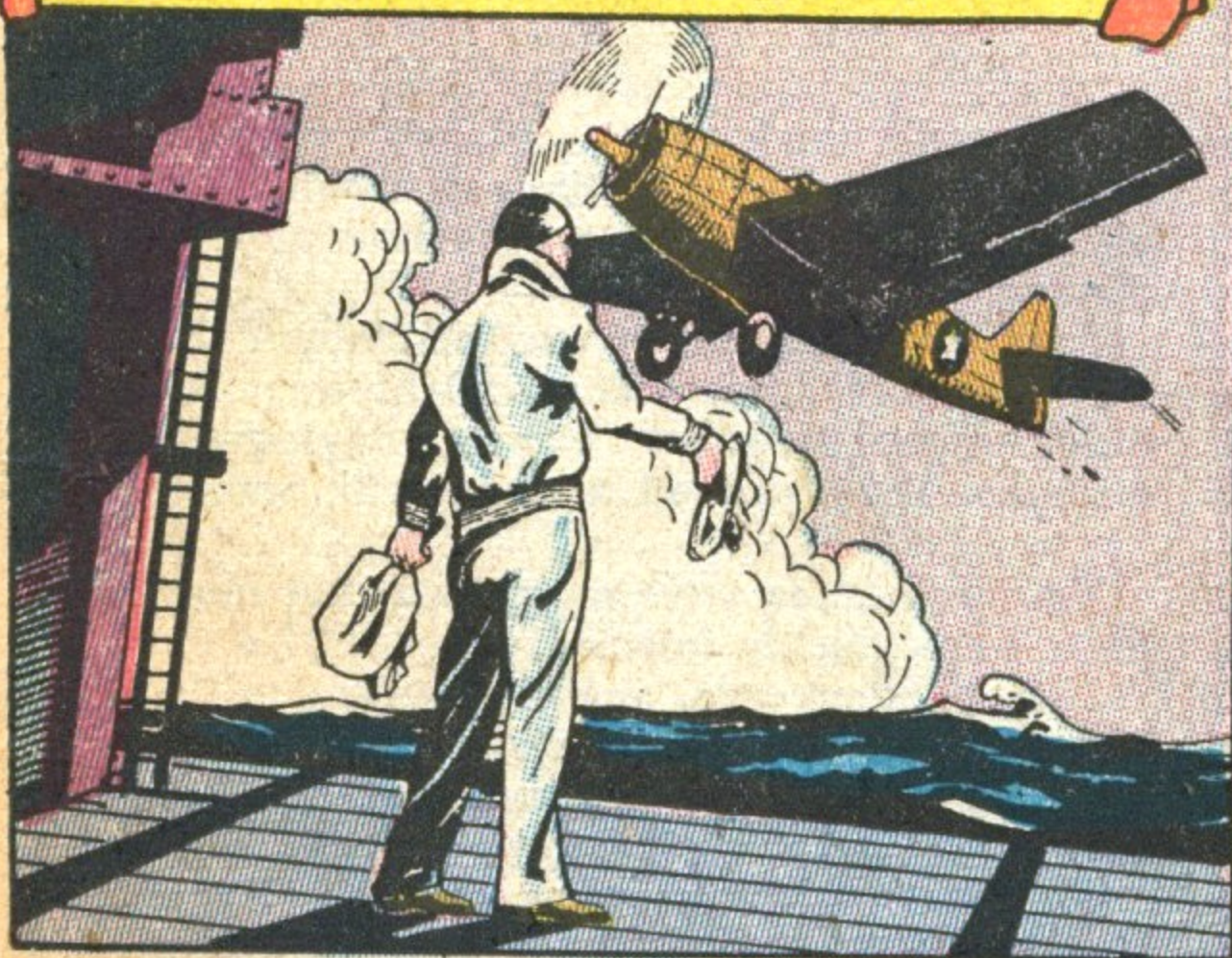
THEN THE ZERO IS HIT AND PLUNGES INTO THE SEA!



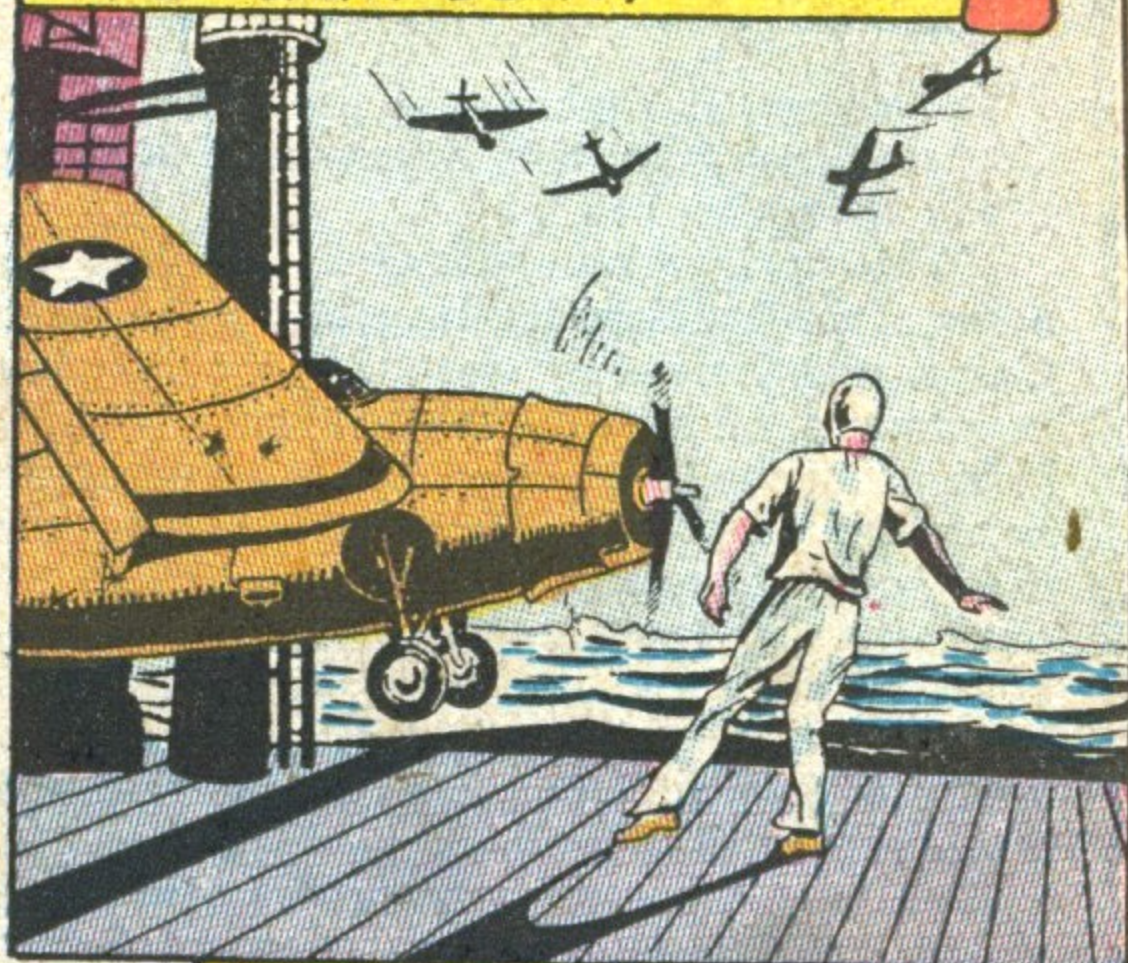
FIVE MINUTES LATER THE FIRST PLANE WINGS ITS WAY HOME!



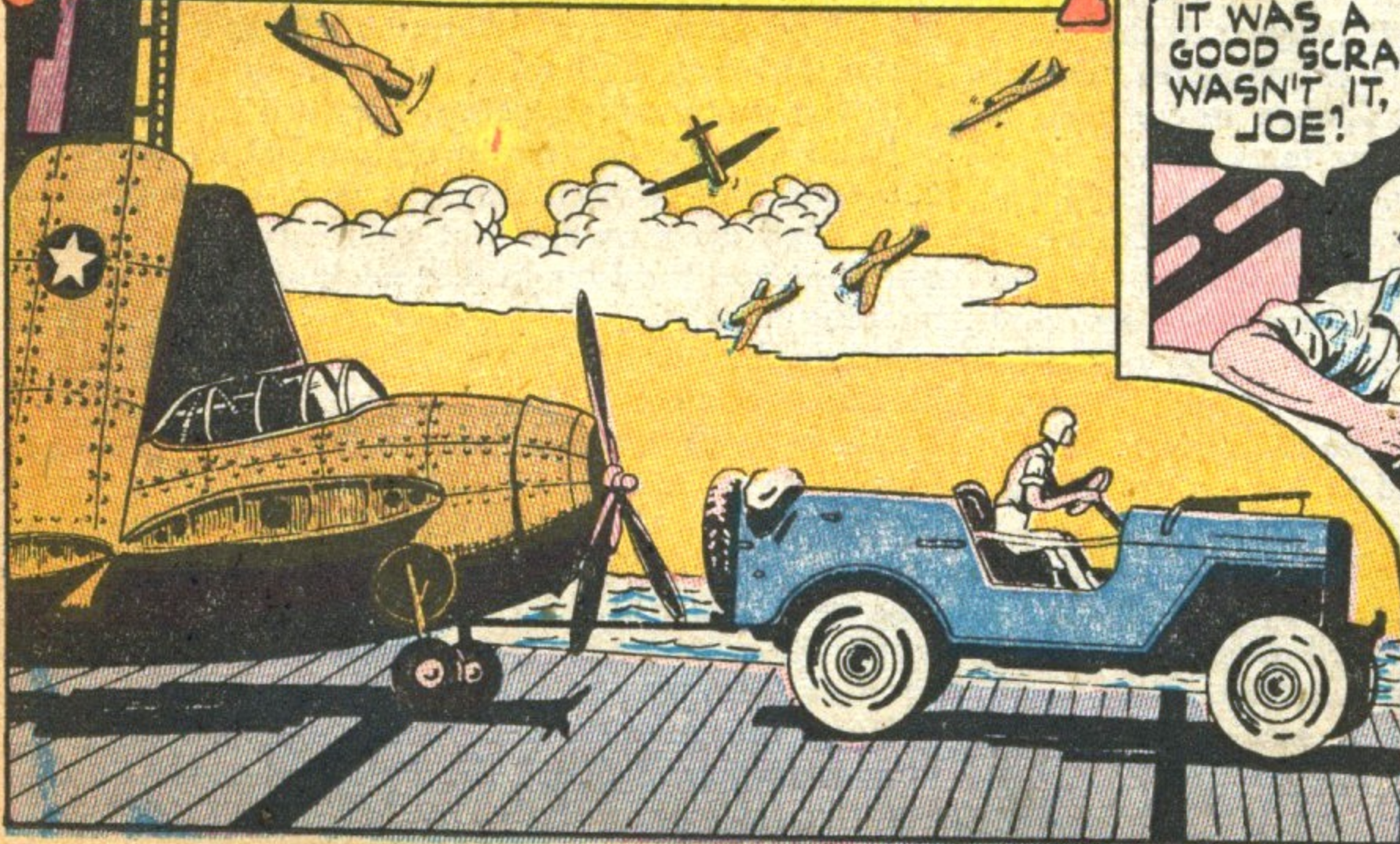
THE PLANE GETS A 'WAVE OFF' FROM THE LANDING SIGNAL OFFICER!



BUT SHORTLY AFTERWARDS..IT COMES DOWN SAFELY ONTO THE FLIGHT DECK!



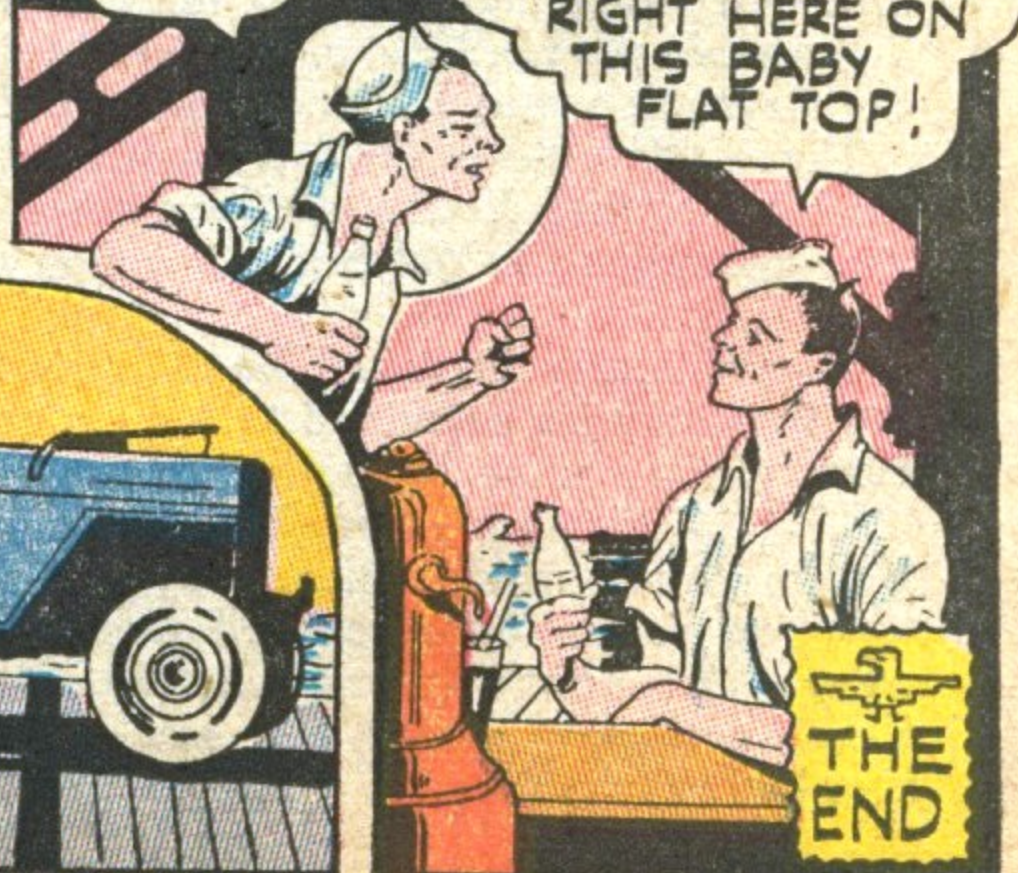
THEN..THE PLANE IS TOWED AWAY BY A JEEP!



THAT NIGHT...

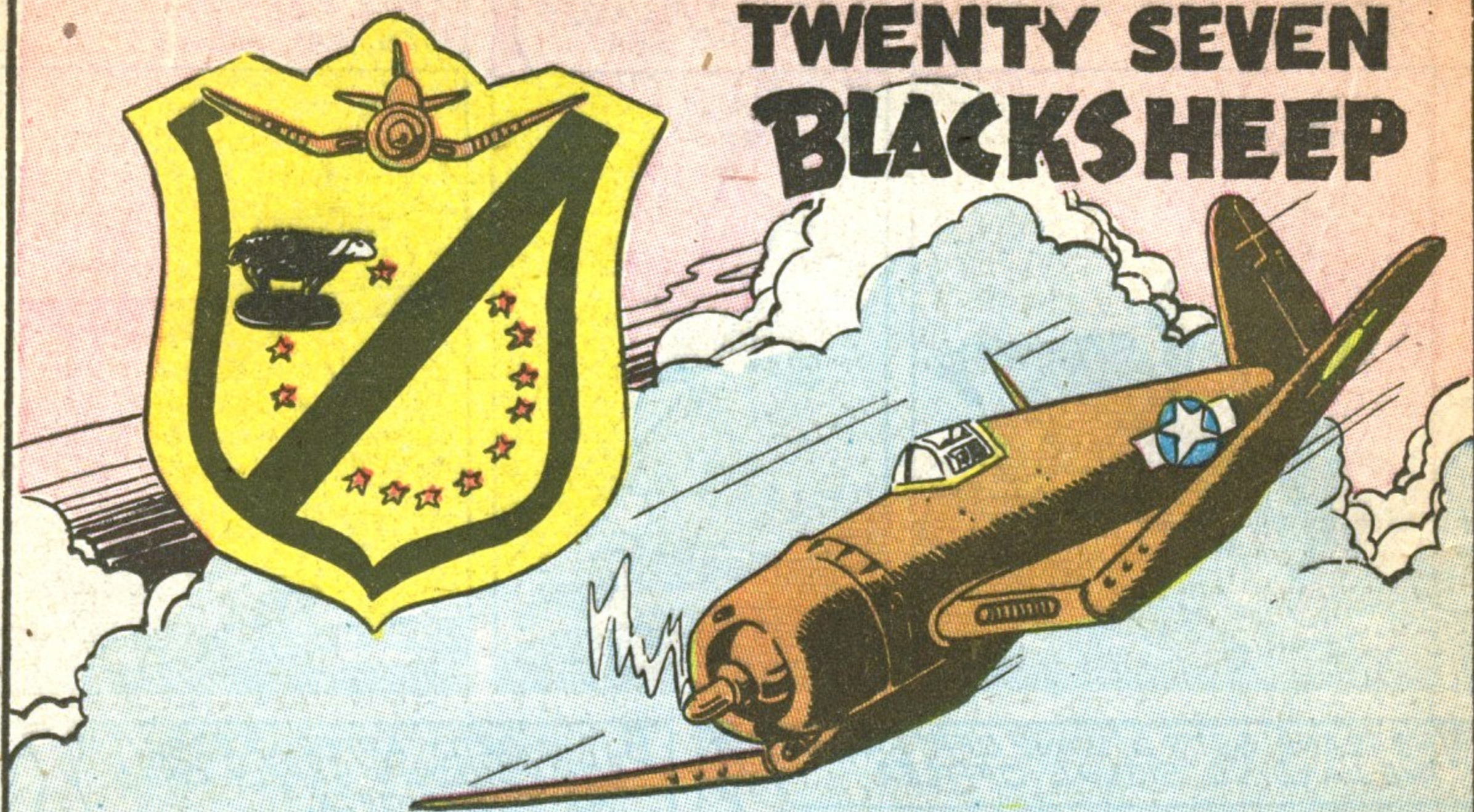
IT WAS A GOOD SCRAP, WASN'T IT, JOE?

YOU SAID IT, MACK! AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I CAN'T THINK OF ANY PLACE I'D RATHER BE THAN RIGHT HERE ON THIS BABY FLAT TOP!



THE END

TWENTY SEVEN BLACKSHEEP



Twenty-seven orphans of the U. S. Marine Corps—that's what they were—and they were pretty sore about it!

Why not? Among those 27 orphans were some of the top-flight fighter pilots in the Marine Corps, and there they were, cooling their heels in idleness, on several South Pacific Islands.

Some of the men were made orphans after becoming ill. While they were recuperating, their squadrons picked up and moved on without them. Others were left behind when their squadrons broke up after casualties from enemy action, while still others were cut loose because of accidents, and planes that were damaged or destroyed.

Twenty of these orphans finally found themselves together at the Wing Command, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides. Later, seven more men were added to the group.

Somehow they didn't hit it up with the other Marine sky fighters. When a squadron needed replacements, the orphans were never called, and that made them angrier than ever.

Probably the maddest of all were Major Gregory Boyington and Major Stanley R. Bailey.

These two officers, with a wonderful idea in the back of their heads, got together their crew and determined to get back in action again or bust.

They literally hounded headquarters, insisting that they be permitted to form a squadron. Finally, they wore headquarters down.

"O.K.," they were told. "Start your squadron. You're commanding officer, Boyington!"

When Boyington recovered from the shock, he wheeled about, smacked Bailey on the back and shouted, "You're my executive officer, Stan!"

That night there was a celebration that will be remembered in the minds of those 27 men as one of the highspots of the late and unlamented World War II!

Boyington's squadron was officially dubbed the "VMF-214", but that colorless appellation didn't appeal to either "Pappy" Boyington, or his men. They wanted a name with some zip to it.

Various names were suggested, but most of them were quickly rejected.

Shortly afterwards, one of the Marine flyers hopped to his feet, and shaking with excitement, he cried, "Let's call ourselves 'The Blacksheep!'"

And that's what they became . . . "Pappy's Blacksheep"!

The Blacksheep were looked down on by the rest of the Marine air men, which only made the 27 orphans more determined than ever to prove that they had what it takes.

It was pretty tough going, because they had only 15 Corsair fighters in action, but as it developed, that was plenty. In 9 short weeks they piled up a record that amazed the world, and that had the Japs in that neck of the woods gasping for air.

Before they went after the Nips, however, the Blacksheep were allowed a short time to become a well trained, smoothly co-ordinated Marine squadron.

"Look fellows," Pappy told them. "We have exactly 8 old Corsairs with which to train, and 3½ weeks to do it in! But we'll do it! We'll work like dogs—and I'd better not hear a squawk from any of you!"

They not only worked like dogs . . . they worked like mad dogs! They were almost dead

on their feet every night. They had only a few hours' sleep, and at the crack of dawn they were up and at it again.

But there weren't any squawks, and Pappy gradually developed a squadron that worked perfectly as a team, a sight beautiful to see. At the end of their training period even Pappy was pleased with them.

In characteristic fashion, he scowled as he said to them, "You'll do, fellows. You're O.K.!"

They didn't want or need any more praise than that, because in their own hearts they knew they could outfight and outfly any squadron at the base.

On September 15, 1943, the Blacksheep had an opportunity to show what they could do.

With 15 VMF-214 Corsairs, they were assigned to escort a flight of Dauntlesses and Avengers on a strike over the southern tip of Bougainville.

Led by Boyington and Bailey, the Blacksheep took off, each man tense as he waited for action.

It wasn't long before they got it!

While the big bombers plastered an airstrip, almost 50 Jap Zeros zoomed in, and the fight was on.

The Blacksheep had been joined by 10 fighters from another squadron, and although they were outnumbered two to one, it didn't seem to make much difference because on that fateful day, 14 Zeros bit the dust, and 11 others were damaged so badly that they probably never were able to fly again.

It was a glorious beginning and the Blacksheep were pretty cocky about it. They were more anxious to roam the skies again.

Don't think they didn't get plenty of action, because they did. As one of the men put it, "We flew our blamed heads off!"

But they didn't see another Nip plane for eight days!

"Guess we've wiped out the entire Jap air force!" they boasted.

However, on that eighth day . . . September 23rd to be exact . . . they ran smack into forty Zeros.

The going was hot and heavy while it lasted. The Blacksheep swooped, swirled and dived like ducks, but when it was all over 7 Japanese planes had been shot down, and the remainder had scooted home. Not a single Blacksheep plane had been struck!

That was in the morning. The same afternoon, Boyington, Bailey and another Blacksheep plane were scouting around, when they ran against the greatest adventure of their lives.

The three planes were streaking over a cloud, when suddenly they swung down to tree top level over Vella la Vella, and what they saw made them laugh with glee.

There, in plain view was a 100-foot Japanese cargo steam launch!

"Let 'em have it!" Boyington shouted into the radio, and that suited the men in the other two planes just right.

They opened up with their guns, the bullets pouring into the steamer like rain on a tin roof setting the boat afire and paralyzing the stunned crew. Then, the planes fanned out and strafed the bivouacs.

Those Nips didn't know what had struck them, it all happened so quickly. They became rattled and so excited that everything they did was wrong.

Major Bailey best and most accurately described what occurred after returning to base.

"We took those Japs so unaware," he explained, "and they became so excited, that instead of letting us have it with their anti-aircraft guns, darned if they didn't start firing on their own shore batteries! They missed us by a mile!"

After that the Blacksheep saw plenty of action. They had become famous at the Marine base, and evidently, the Japs were afraid of them too, because on numerous occasions Pappy and his boys ran up against squadrons twice as large as their own, but the Nips turned tail and went home!

One of the Blacksheep's neatest tricks was to go up to 20,000 feet over enemy bases, and challenge the Japs to come after them. By means of this device they succeeded in knocking out 20 enemy planes in two days.

Their first tour of duty ended on October 20. Their second was even more impressive—it was positively sensational. Pappy's Blacksheep downed 94 planes in combat; 32 additional planes were believed to have been destroyed; 50 Nip craft were damaged in the air; and 21 planes were wrecked on the ground!

And there's still more!

In addition to the 100-foot steamer destroyed, the Blacksheep sent down a 50-foot cargo steamer, a 70-foot Jap operated Chinese junk, a 70-foot steam launch, 20 supply barges, three Jap troop barges, one raft jammed with troops and 15 other surface craft.

The original Blacksheep are no more, even though a squadron still used the name as they rode to even greater glory.

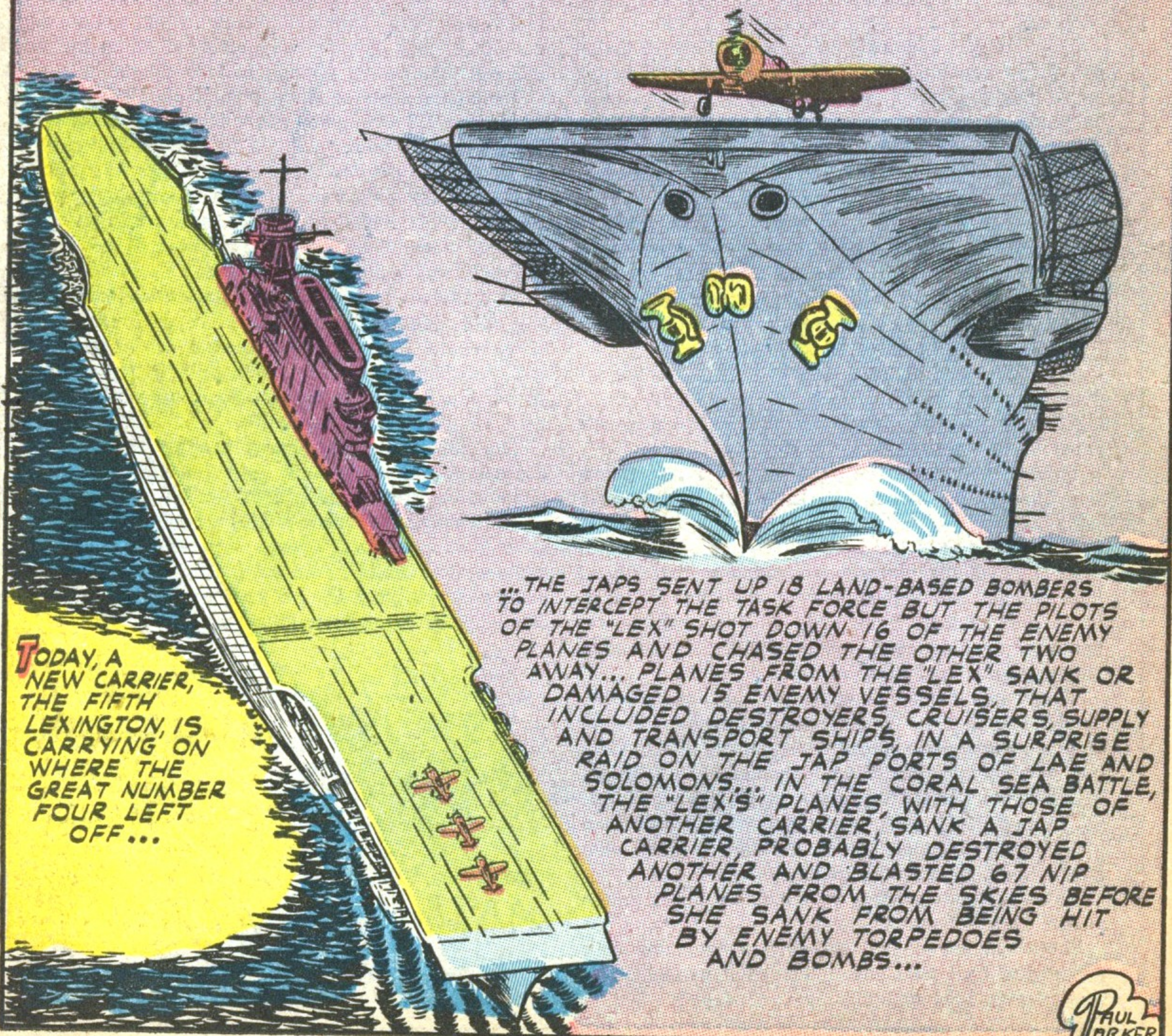
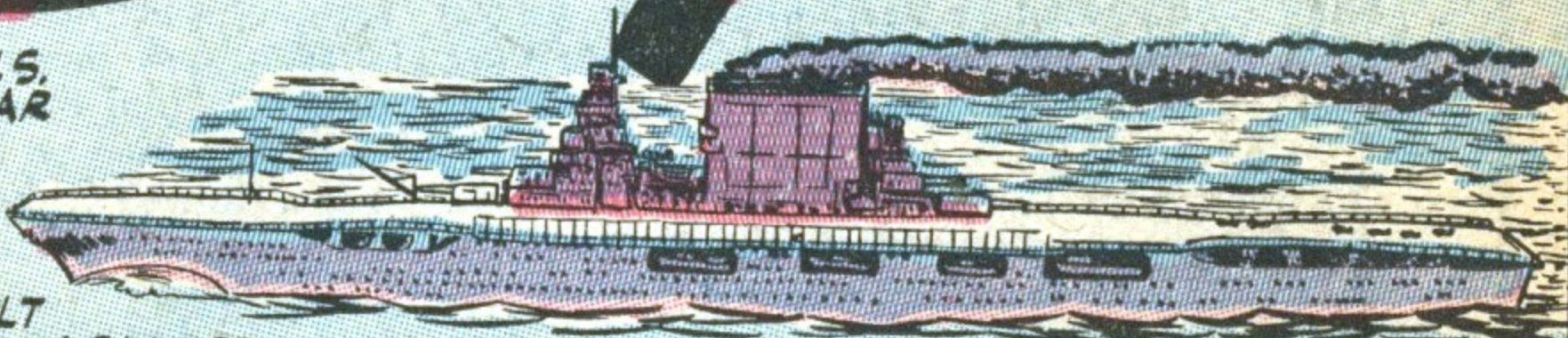
But Pappy Boyington and 11 others are not with the unit. They were reported missing in action. One thing is certain, though. Wherever Pappy Boyington is, he has probably formed Blacksheep Squadron Number Two!

**FLASH....ON AUGUST
29TH 1945, MAJOR
GREGORY
BOYINGTON WAS
LOCATED ALIVE
AND WELL IN A JAP
PRISON CAMP....!**

THE *Lexington*

THE CARRIER LEXINGTON, FOURTH U.S. NAVY WARSHIP TO BEAR THIS NAME, WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

BEFORE THE "LEX" WAS SUNK ON MAY 8, 1942, SHE HAD DEALT HEAVY BLOWS TO THE JAPANESE EARLIER IN THE YEAR AT BOUGAINVILLE ON FEB. 20, IN THE BATTLE OF LAE AND THE SOLOMONS AND AGAIN ON MAY 7-8, WHEN SHE TOOK A HEAVY TOLL OF ENEMY SHIPS, PLANES, AND MEN IN THE CORAL SEA BATTLE... OFF BOUGAINVILLE, THE "LEX" WAS OPERATING WITH A TASK FORCE WHEN TWO JAP FLYING BOATS SPOTTED HER... THEY WERE QUICKLY SHOT DOWN BY THE CARRIER'S PILOTS, BUT NOT BEFORE THE JAPS AT BOUGAINVILLE HAD BEEN RADIOED WARNING OF THE APPROACHING U.S. TASK FORCE...

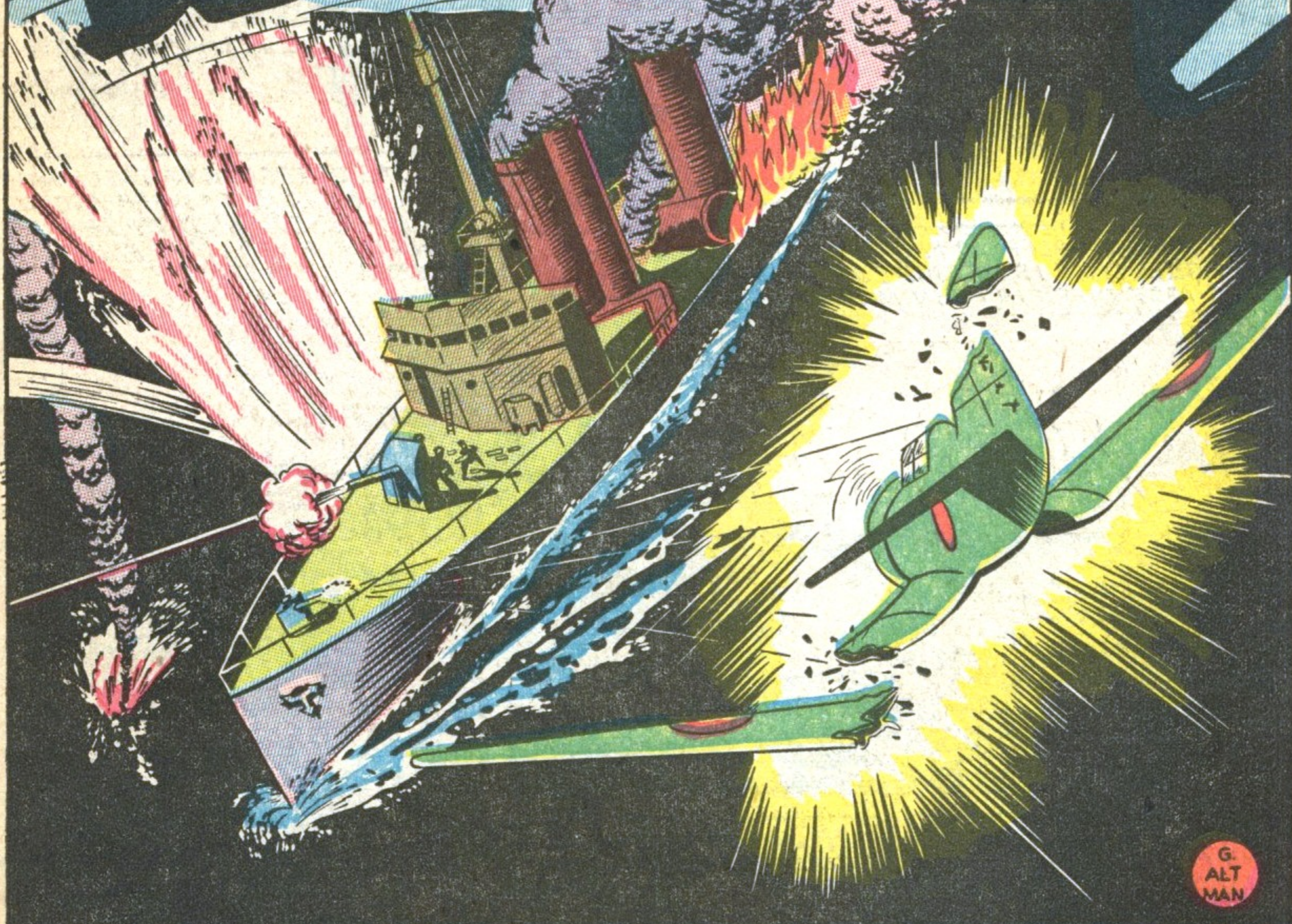


TODAY, A NEW CARRIER, THE FIFTH LEXINGTON, IS CARRYING ON WHERE THE GREAT NUMBER FOUR LEFT OFF...

...THE JAPS SENT UP 18 LAND-BASED BOMBERS TO INTERCEPT THE TASK FORCE BUT THE PILOTS OF THE "LEX" SHOT DOWN 16 OF THE ENEMY PLANES AND CHASED THE OTHER TWO AWAY... PLANES FROM THE "LEX" SANK OR DAMAGED 15 ENEMY VESSELS, THAT INCLUDED DESTROYERS, CRUISERS, SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT SHIPS, IN A SURPRISE RAID ON THE JAP PORTS OF LAE AND SOLOMONS... IN THE CORAL SEA BATTLE, THE "LEX'S" PLANES, WITH THOSE OF ANOTHER CARRIER, SANK A JAP CARRIER, PROBABLY DESTROYED ANOTHER AND BLASTED 67 NIP PLANES FROM THE SKIES BEFORE SHE SANK FROM BEING HIT BY ENEMY TORPEDOES AND BOMBS...

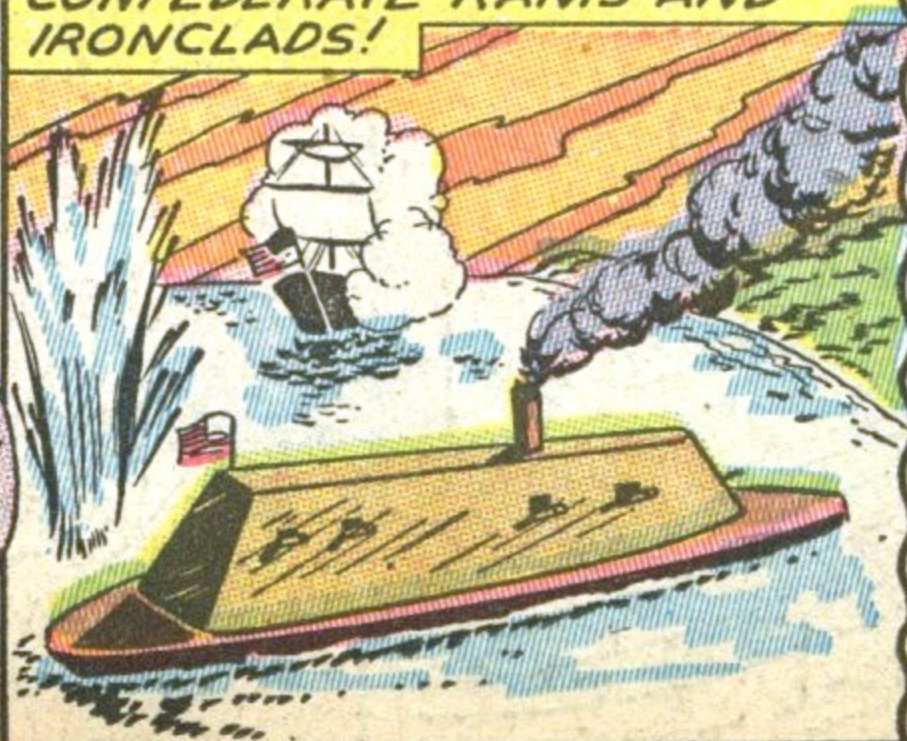
PAUL PARKER

OVERGROWN DESTROYER



MARBLEHEAD, MASS., THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE U.S. NAVY HAS GIVEN ITS NAME TO SEVERAL PROUD BATTLE WAGONS SINCE THE DAYS OF THE CIVIL WAR... BUT NONE OF THEM HAS UPHELD THE GLORIOUS TRADITIONS OF THE NAVY WITH MORE DISTINCTION AND HONOR THAN THE U.S.S. MARBLEHEAD OF TODAY!

THE FIRST MARBLEHEAD WAS A WOODEN GUNBOAT. BUILT IN NINETY DAYS TO COMBAT THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF CONFEDERATE RAMS AND IRONCLADS!



TWENTY YEARS LATER. THE SECOND MARBLEHEAD WAS LAUNCHED... A LITTLE TWO-THOUSAND TON PROTECTED CRUISER THAT SERVED LONG AND WELL!



THE
THIRD
U.S.S.
MARBLE
HEAD
IS COM-
MISSIONED
ON
SEPT. 8,
1924!



MEN... OUR NEW SHIP HAS A
CRUISING RANGE OF TEN-
THOUSAND MILES. AND CAN
ATTAIN A SPEED OF THIRTY
FIVE KNOTS. I KNOW YOU
JOIN ME IN HOPING IT HAS
A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE!

WHAT DO YOU
THINK OF THE
SHIP, BILL?

HUMPH... WHY
SHE'S NOTHING
BUT AN
OVERGROWN
DESTROYER!



BUT THE MARBLEHEAD PROVES AN IDEAL CRUISING
VESSEL... AND IS ASSIGNED PATROL DUTY DURING
THE 1927 DIFFICULTY IN NICARAGUA!

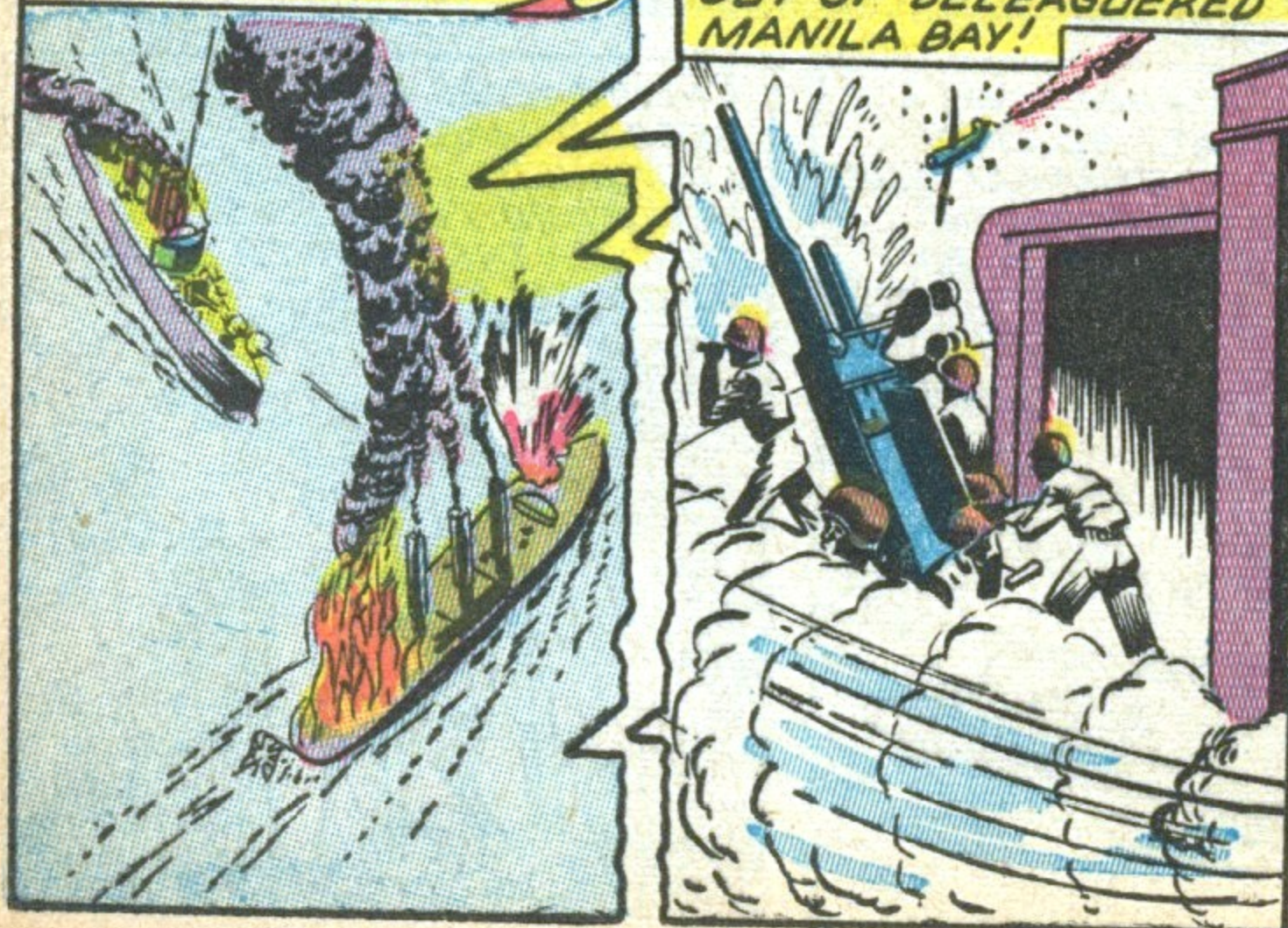


AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE CHINESE
CIVIL WAR... THE CRUISER ASCENDS
SIX HUNDRED MILES UP THE
YANGTZE RIVER... THE FIRST
VESSEL OF HER SIZE TO
ACHIEVE SUCH A RECORD!



WHEN THE JAPS ATTACK
THE PHILIPPINES... THE
MARBLEHEAD SEES IM-
MEDIATE ACTION!

HER JOB IS TO KEEP SUPPLY
LINES OPEN AND CONVOY
MERCHANT SHIPS IN AND
OUT OF BELEAGUERED
MANILA BAY!



WITH THE FALL OF BATAAN THE
MARBLEHEAD AND WHAT'S LEFT OF
OUR NAVAL FORCES... STEAM TO
JAVA FOR A LAST DITCH STAND!

WE'LL BE READY
FOR THE NIPS
THIS TIME!

YEAH!... AND
IT'LL BE A
DIFFERENT
STORY!



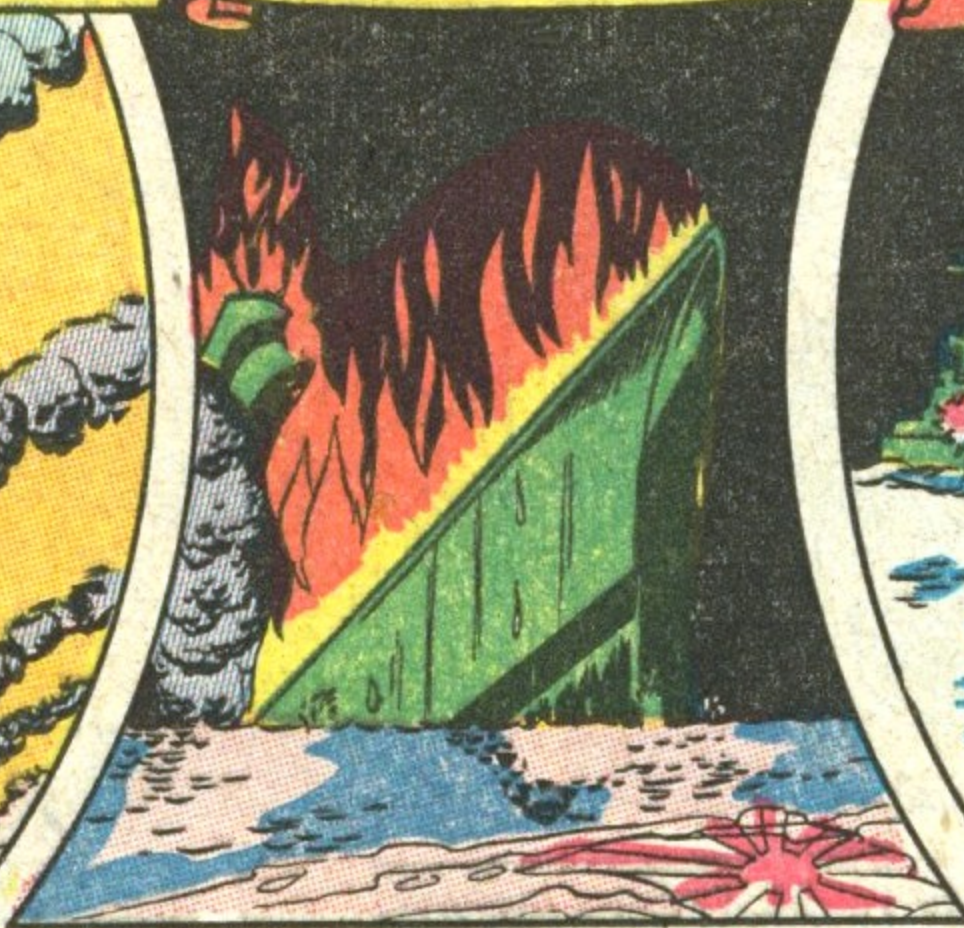
**IN
JANUARY,
1942...
A TREMENDOUS
JAPANESE
NAVAL
FORCE
STEAMS
TOWARDS
MACASSAR
STRAIT
BETWEEN
CELEBES
AND
BORNEO!**



**IN AN AUDACIOUS ATTACK...
THE MARBLEHEAD... LEADING
FOUR AMERICAN DESTROYERS...
OPENS FIRE ON THE JAPS!**

**SIX JAPANESE TRANSPORTS
ARE SUNK... AND MANY
OTHERS ARE DAMAGED...
LIMPING AWAY TO SAFETY!**

**BUT A WEEK LATER...
THE SAME TASK FORCE
IS ALMOST TRAPPED BY
A JAP FLEET OF SEVEN
CRUISERS AND THIR-
TEEN DESTROYERS!**



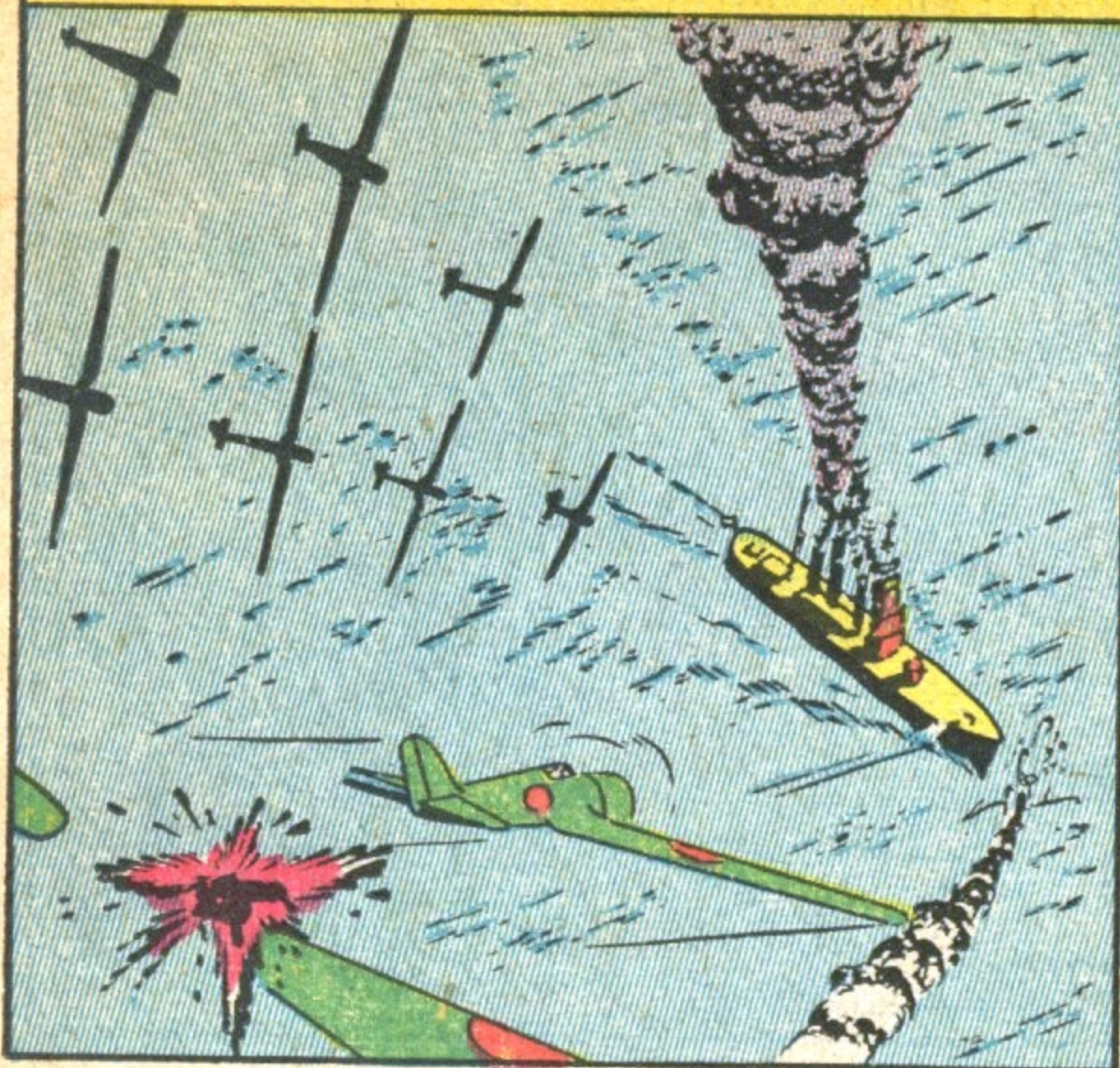
**THEN... ON FEBRUARY FOURTH... DURING THE
TRAGIC BATTLE OF THE JAVA SEA... A COM-
BINED AMERICAN AND DUTCH FORCE DES-
PERATELY TRIES TO PREVENT A LARGE JAP
INVASION FORCE FROM ESTABLISHING A
BEACH HEAD ON BORNEO!**



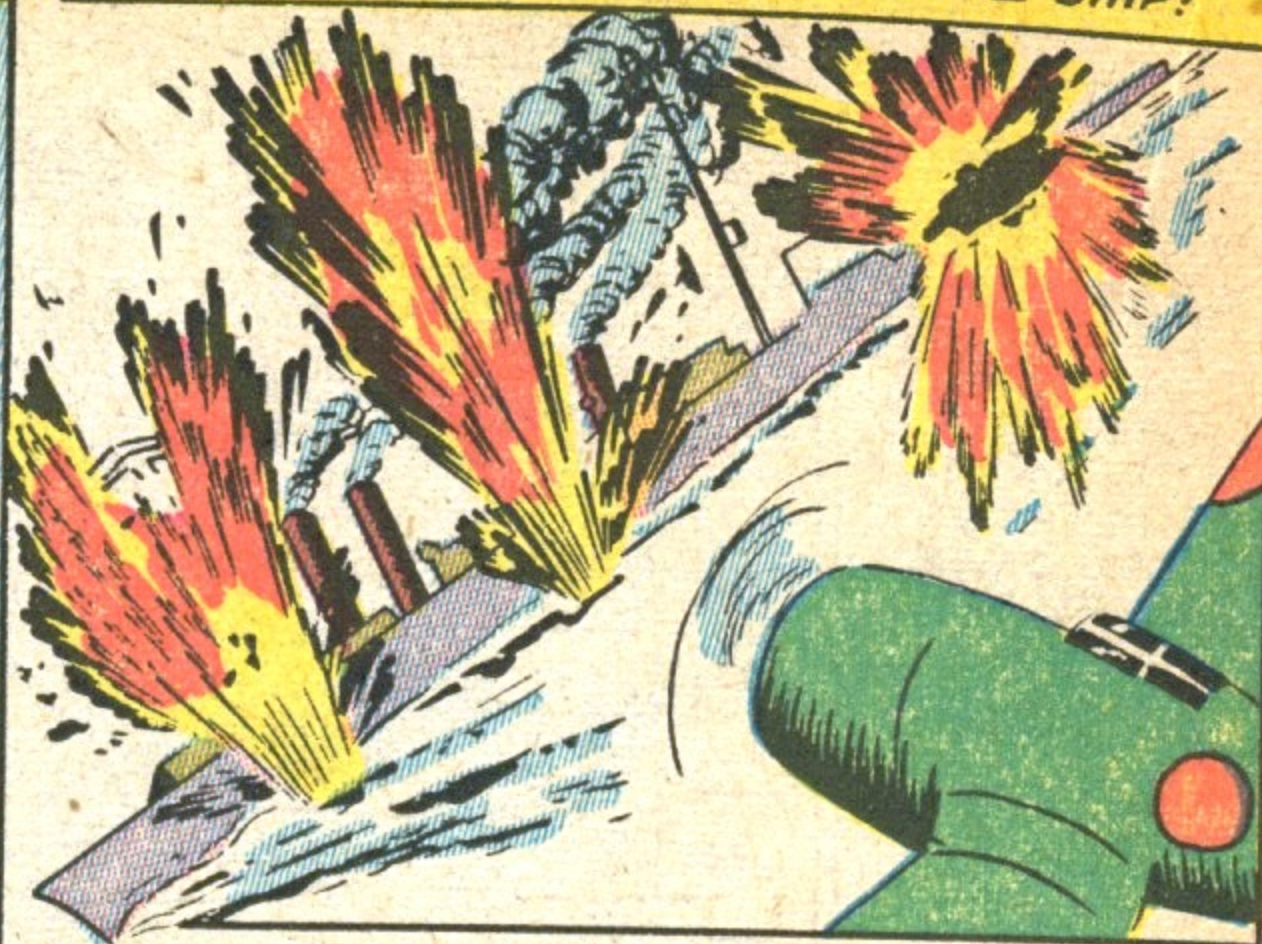
**FIFTY FOUR JAP TORPEDO PLANES
SWOOP DOWN ON ALLIED WARSHIPS
WHICH HAVE NO AIR PROTECTION
OF THEIR OWN!**



A DOUBLE V FORMATION OF EIGHTEEN NIP PLANES ATTACK THE MARBLEHEAD TWICE!



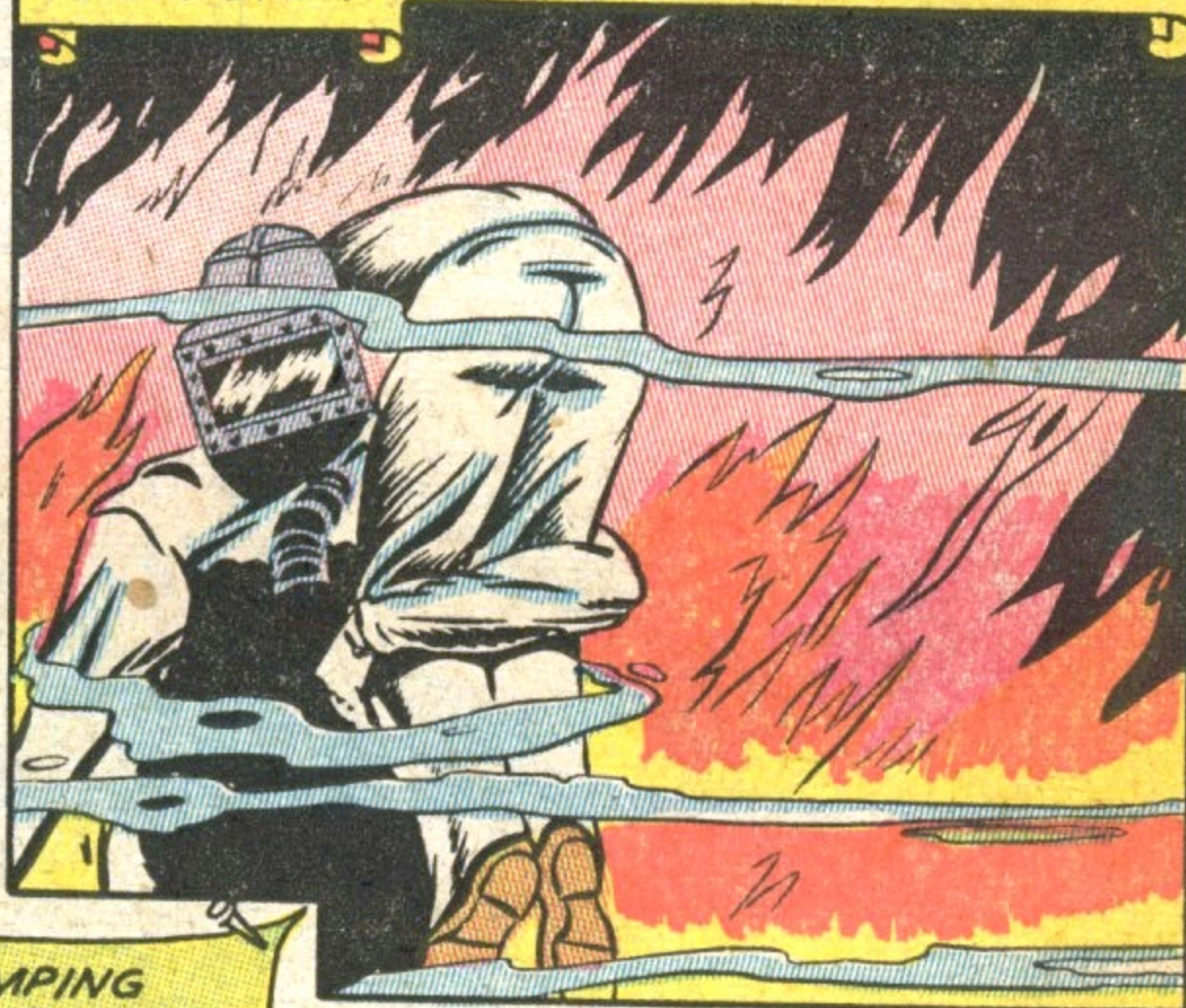
ON THE THIRD ATTEMPT...THE JAPS SEND THREE BOMBS CRASHING INTO THE SHIP!



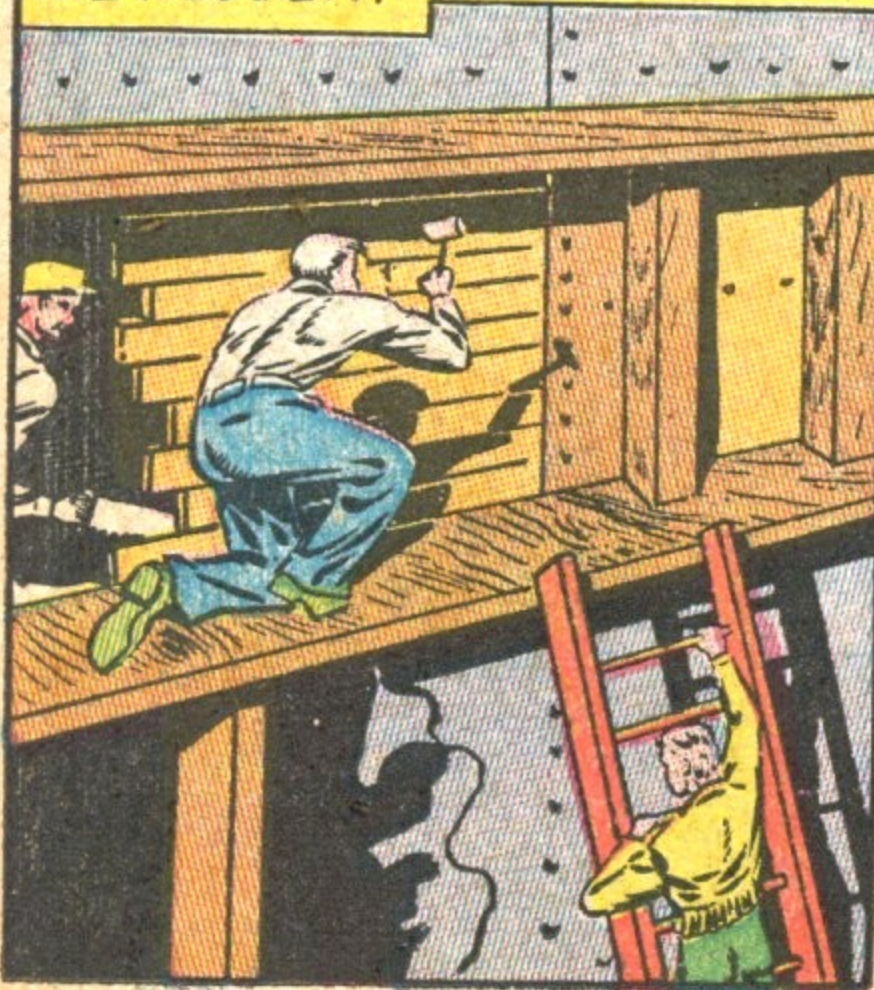
WITH THE STEERING GEAR DAMAGED... THE SHIP RUNS AROUND IN CIRCLES... UNTIL THE CAPTAIN BEGINS TO STEER WITH HER SCREWS!



FIFTEEN CREW MEN ARE KILLED... FIFTY INJURED... AND ALTHOUGH FIRES BREAK OUT IN THREE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE SHIP... THE SHIP SURVIVES TWO MORE AIR ATTACKS... AND MAKES FOR TJILATJAP!



WORKMEN SEW UP A HOLE IN HER SIDE... AND HER BOW IS STRAIGHTENED OUT... BUT NOTHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT THE RUDDER!



AFTER LIMPING ACROSS THE NORTH INDIAN OCEAN TO CEYLON... NO MATERIALS TO PATCH HER UP ARE AVAILABLE... SO THE MARBLEHEAD SETS OFF FOR SOUTH AFRICA WHERE SHE IS REPAIRED SUFFICIENTLY TO MAKE THE RUN HOME!

I HOPE SHE'LL HOLD TOGETHER!

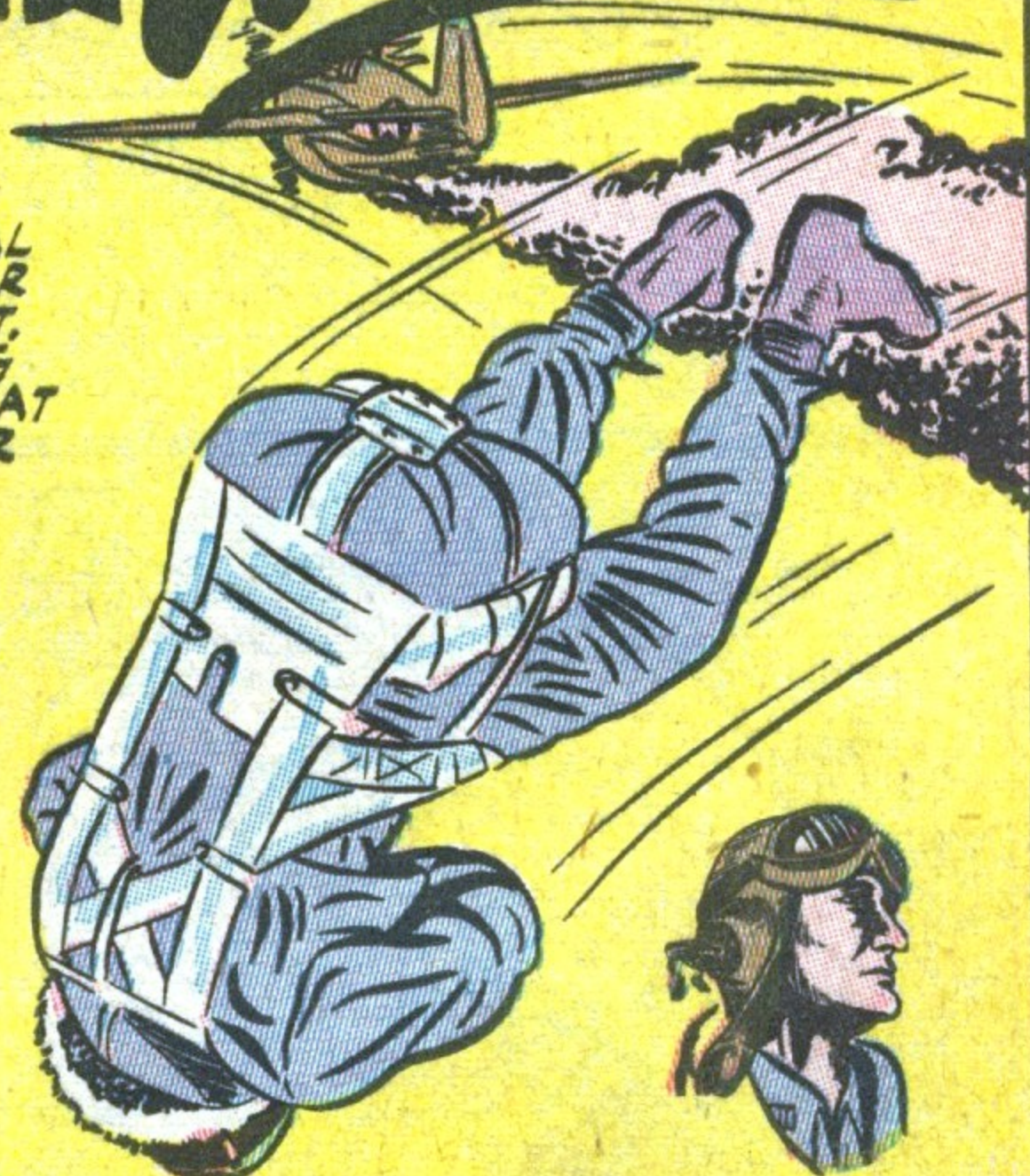


COMPLETELY OVERHAULED AND REFITTED IN THE UNITED STATES... THE INDOMITABLE MARBLEHEAD IS BACK IN ACTION AGAIN... DOING PRETTY WELL FOR SUCH AN OLD LADY!



THE FRENCH "Alamo"

NAVY LIEUTENANT DAVID STANLEY CROCKETT, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, IS EVERY BIT AS MUCH A HERO AS HIS FAMOUS DISTANT RELATIVE, THE ORIGINAL DAVEY CROCKETT OF AMERICAN PIONEER DAYS... HERE IS HIS AMAZING STORY... LT. CROCKETT BAILED OUT OF HIS BLAZING CARRIER-BASED HELL-CAT FIGHTER THAT WAS SHOT DOWN ON A MISSION OVER TOULON... HE WAS CAPTURED BY THE GERMANS AND PUT IN A PRISONER GROUP OF NINE AMERICANS, ONE ENGLISHMAN, 10 FRENCHMEN, AND FOUR ALGERIANS THAT WERE BEING KEPT IN THE TOULON ARSENAL... DURING THE INITIAL PHASE OF THE ALLIED INVASION OF SOUTHERN FRANCE, THIS ARSENAL WAS SHELLED UNMERCIFULLY... WHILE THE GERMAN "SUPERMEN" WERE

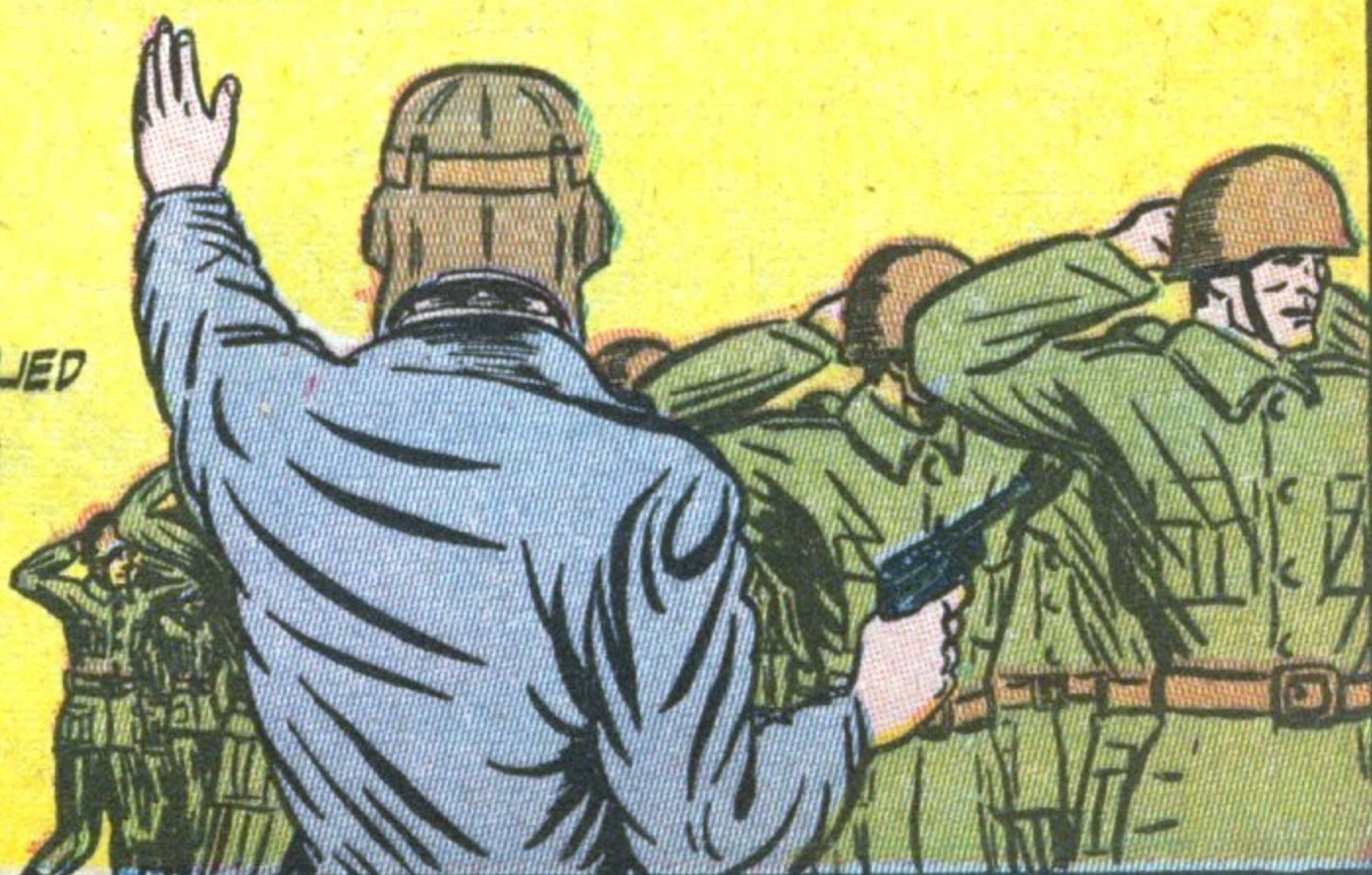


CROCKETT



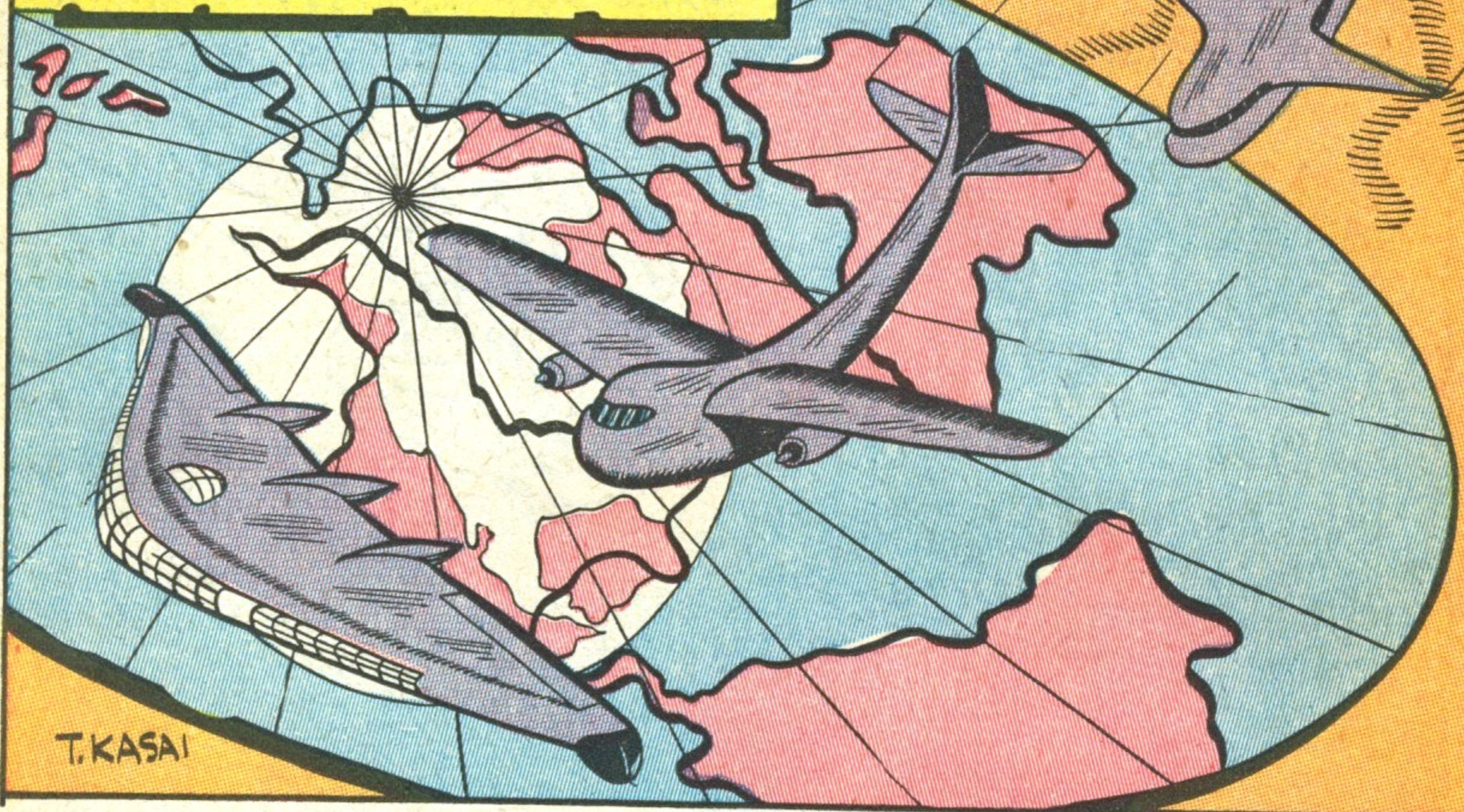
SCURRYING FOR COVER DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE ATTACK, THE PRISONERS JOYOUSLY SANG "GOD BLESS AMERICA"... THAT EVENING, CROCKETT WAS CALLED TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARSENAL'S COMMANDING OFFICER...

THE GERMAN SURRENDERED HIS GUN TO CROCKETT AND SAID, "THE WAR IS FINISHED". HE WAS SURRENDERING THE GARRISON TO HIM... WITH THE HELP OF THE OTHER 23 ALLIED PRISONERS, CROCKETT HERDED THE 500 GERMANS TOGETHER AND MARCHED THEM OUT OF THE ARSENAL TO THE FRENCH MAQUIS... THE TRI-COLOR OF FRANCE WAS SOON FLYING OVER THE "ALAMO"



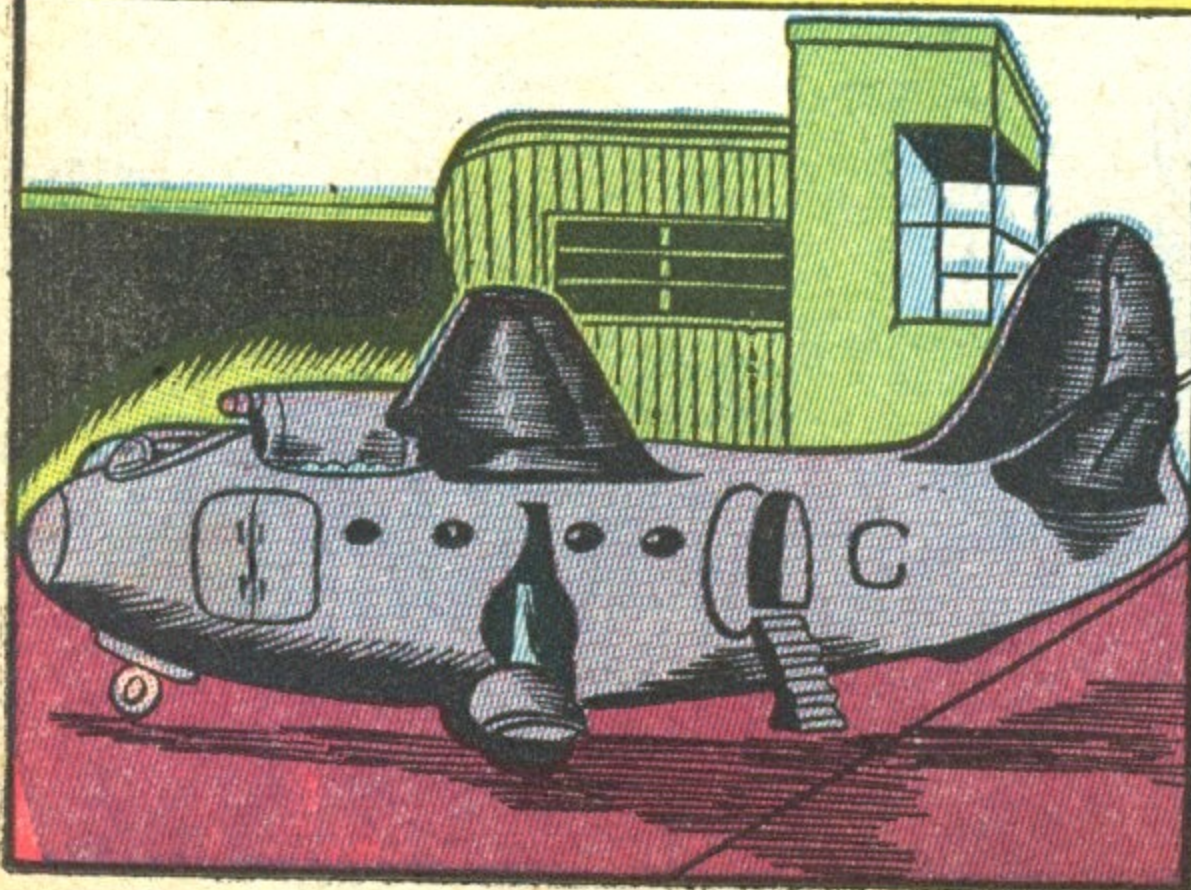
SKYLINERS OF *Tomorrow*

LEAPING FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS OF FARSIGHTED ENGINEERS... IS A CONSTANT PARADE OF PLANES FOR SKYLINERS OF TOMORROW--REVOLUTIONARY... SWIFT... BUT COMPLETELY SAFE--PLANES THAT WILL SPAN THE GLOBE WITH BREATH-TAKING SPEED IN THE SKYWAYS OF A BUSY WORLD AT PEACE!

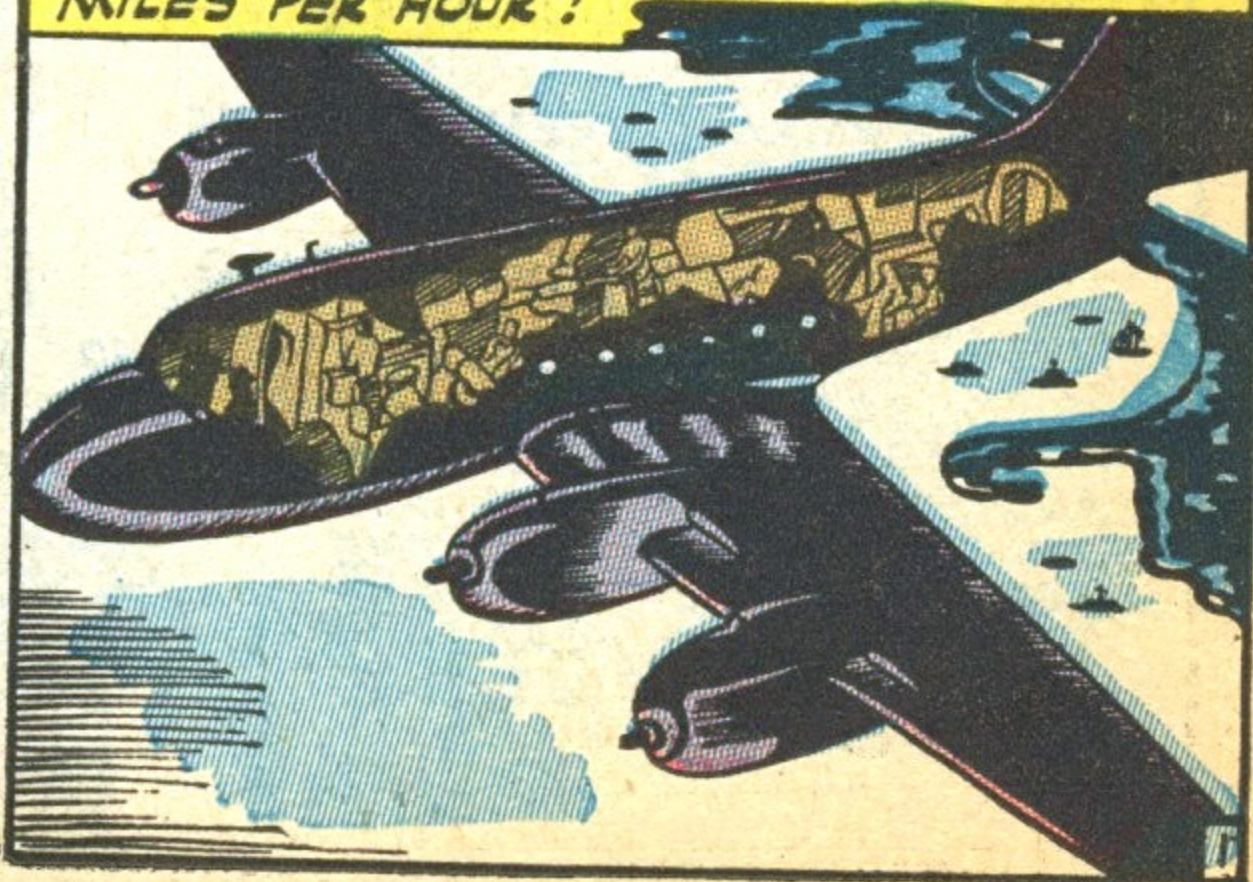


T. KASAI

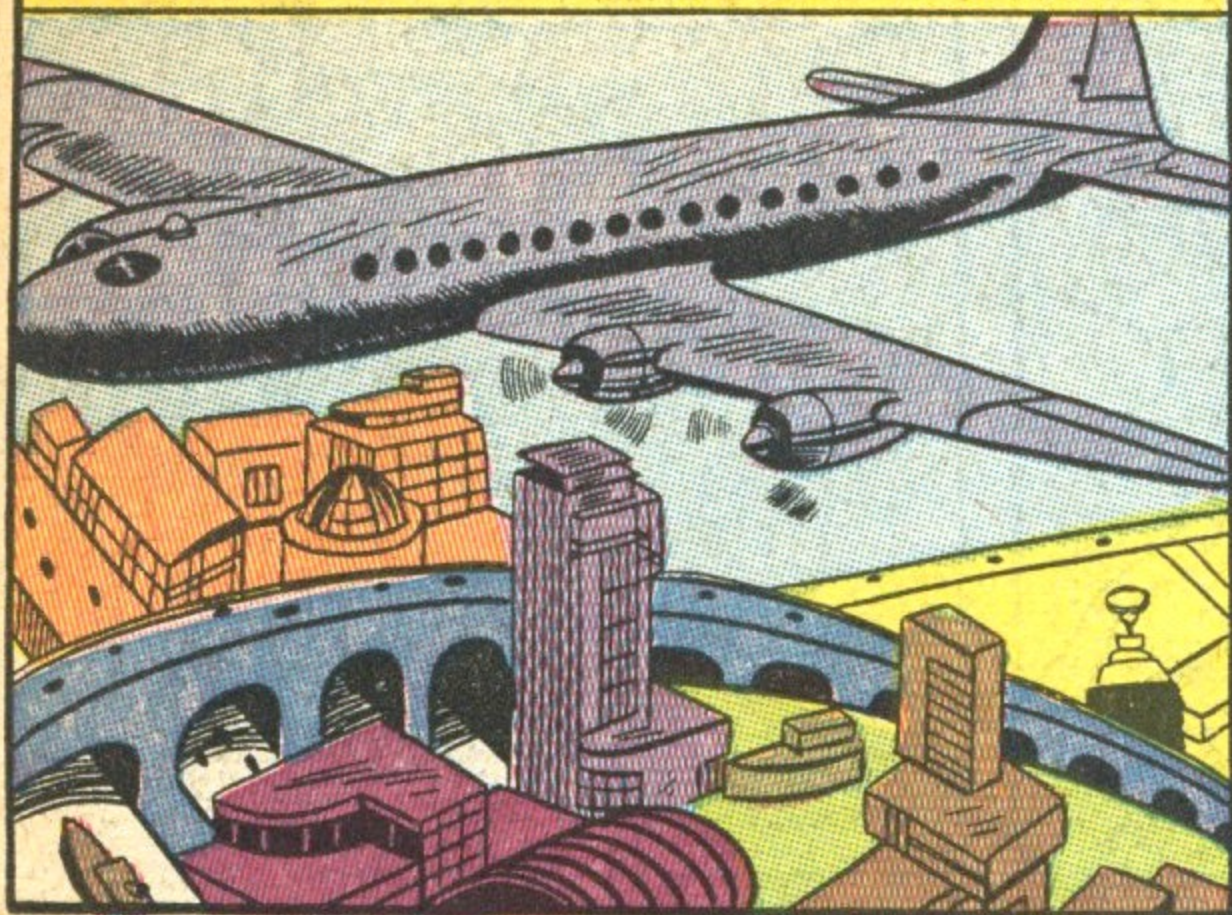
CONSERVATIVE DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS HAVE ALREADY DEVELOPED THE SKYBUS... A NOVEL FEEDER LINE FOR 24 PASSENGERS AND CARGO -- A PERFECT SHIP FOR SMALL AIRPORTS!



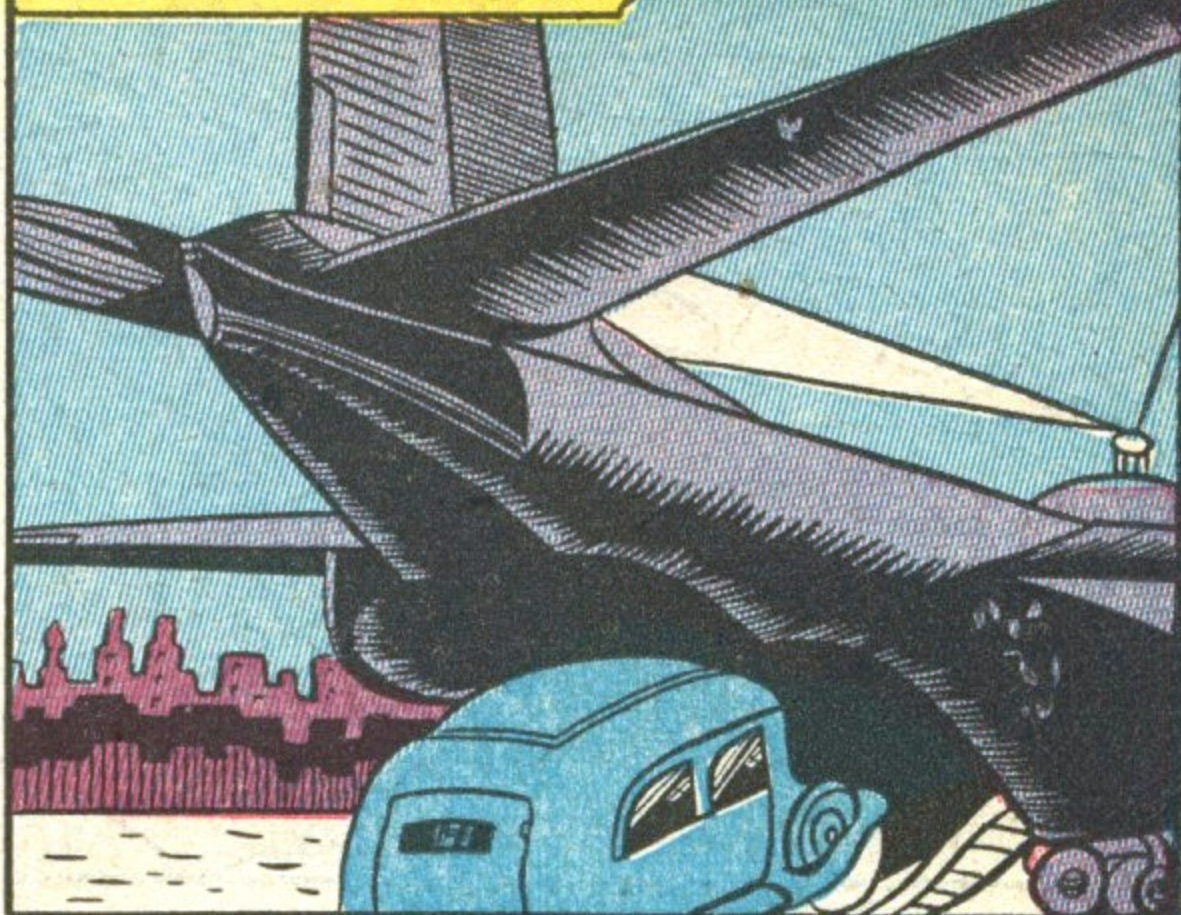
THE DOUGLAS DC-4... A COMMERCIAL VERSION OF THE FAMOUS C-55 ALREADY TESTED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS -- WILL BE A 4 ENGINE GIANT CARRYING 50 PASSENGERS PLUS MAIL AND EXPRESS -- AT A SPEED OF 200 MILES PER HOUR!



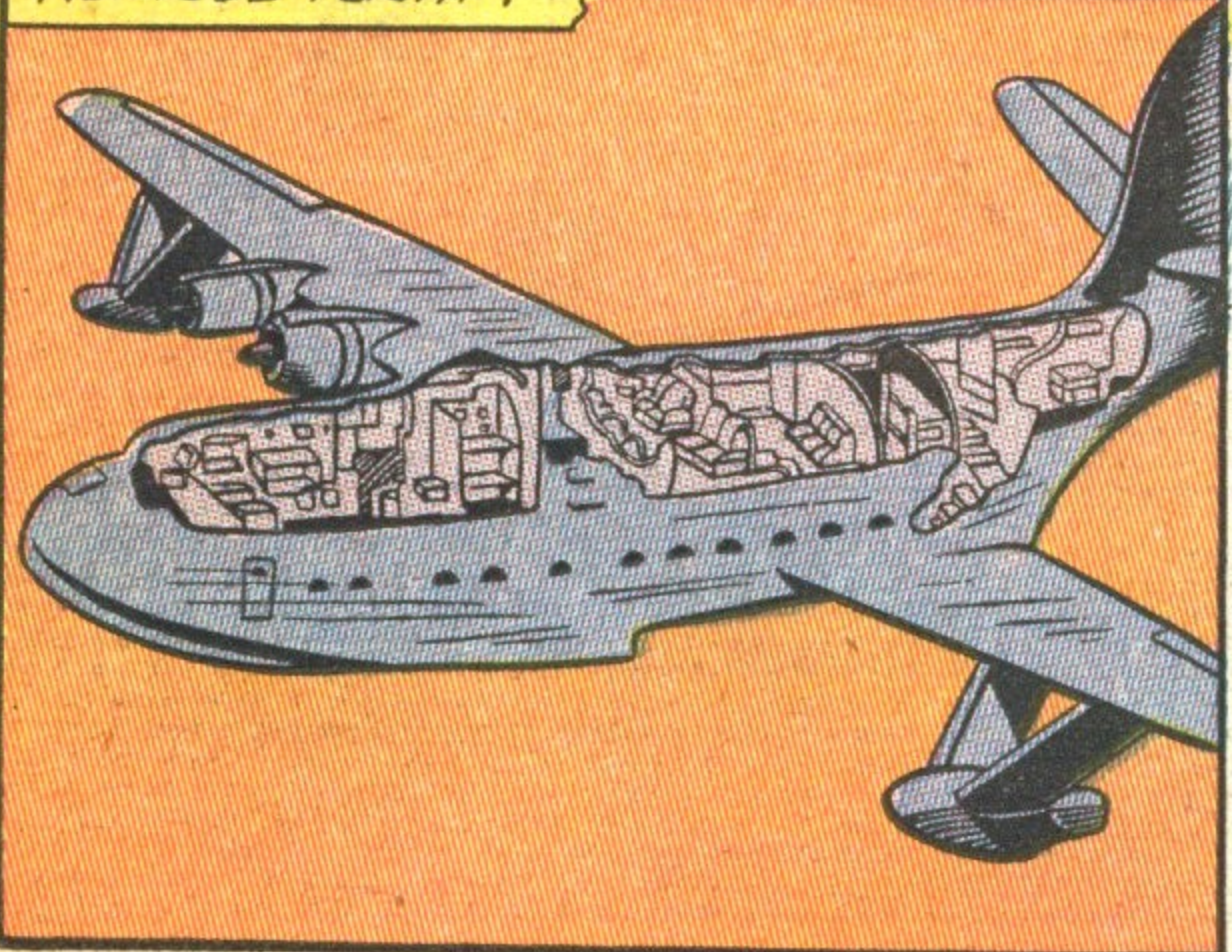
DESIGNED AS A POST WAR TRANS-OCEAN TRANSPORT WITH A RANGE OF 4,000 MILES... THE \$1,250,000 DOUGLAS DC-7 WILL WHISK 86 PASSENGERS OVER THE SEA BY DAY--- AND 66 PERSONS AS A SLEEPER PLANE!



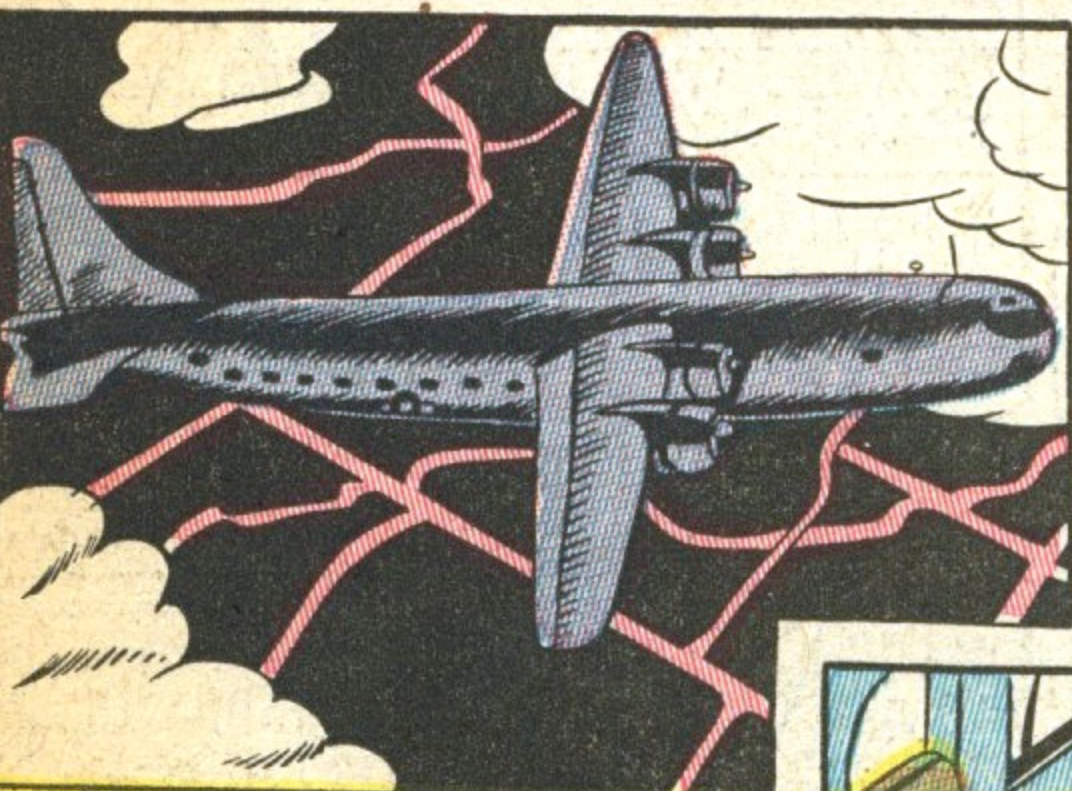
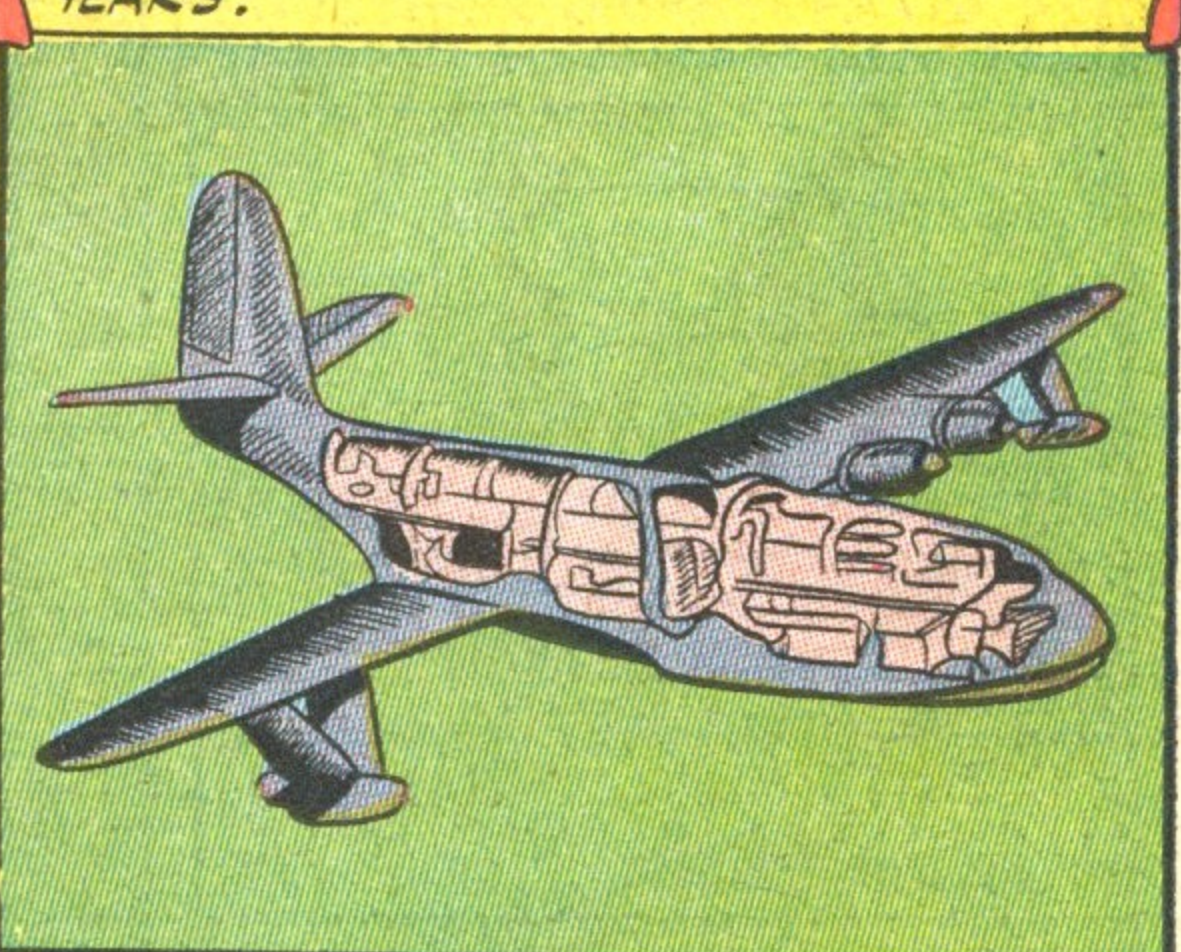
THE GLENN L. MARTIN COMPANY HAS CREATED A REVOLUTIONARY NEW HIGH WING MONOPLANE WITH A FUSELAGE THAT SWINGS OPEN AT THE TAIL FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING CARGO!



THE MARTIN MARS OF TOMORROW WILL CONTAIN SHOWERS, MESS TABLES, LOUNGES AND PRESSURIZING EQUIPMENT FOR HIGH ALTITUDE FLIGHT!

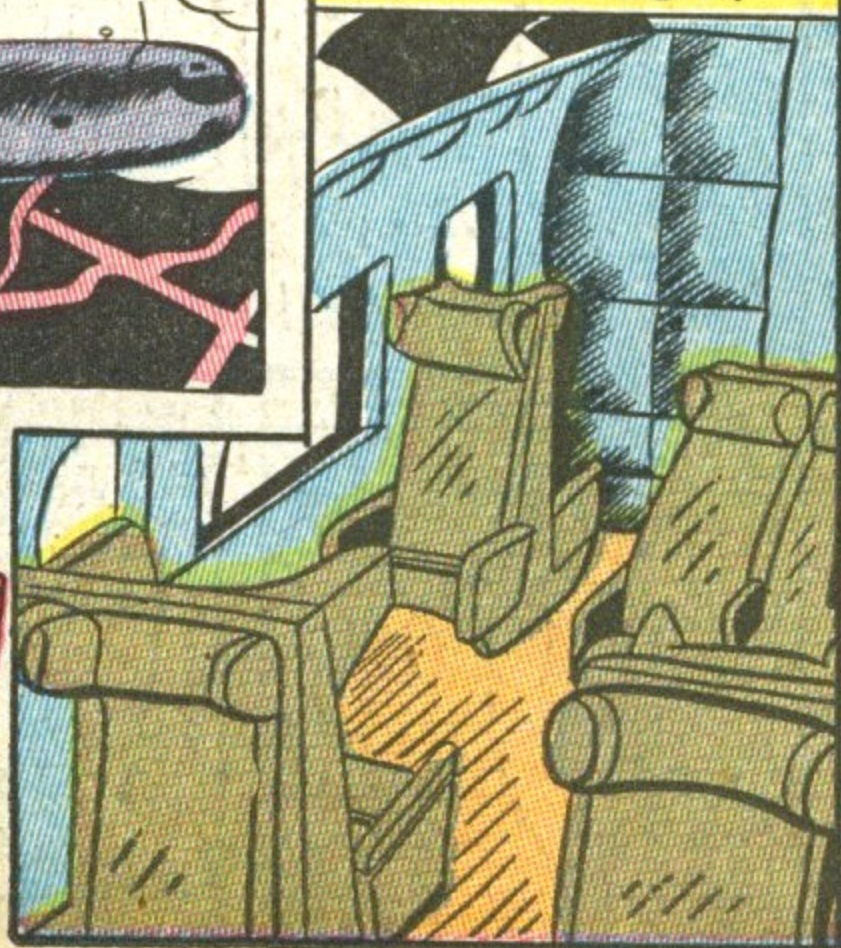


THE MARTIN MARS FREIGHT PLANE WILL BE A 250,000 POUND GIANT... 500,000 POUND SHIPS TO FOLLOW IN A FEW YEARS!



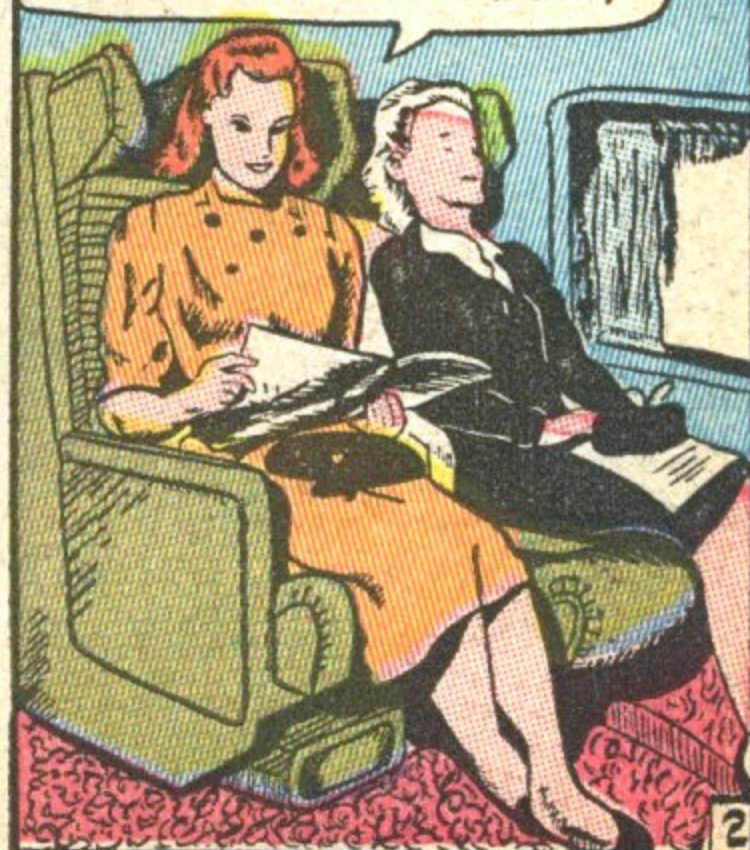
CONSOLIDATED VULTEE HAS NOT ONLY DESIGNED A POST-WAR SKYLINER... BUT ALREADY IS FLYING IT... THE MODEL 39 VERSION OF THE FAMOUS B-24 LIBERATOR!

THE CABIN OF THESE PLANES RESEMBLE INTERIORS OF LUXURIOUS CLUBS!

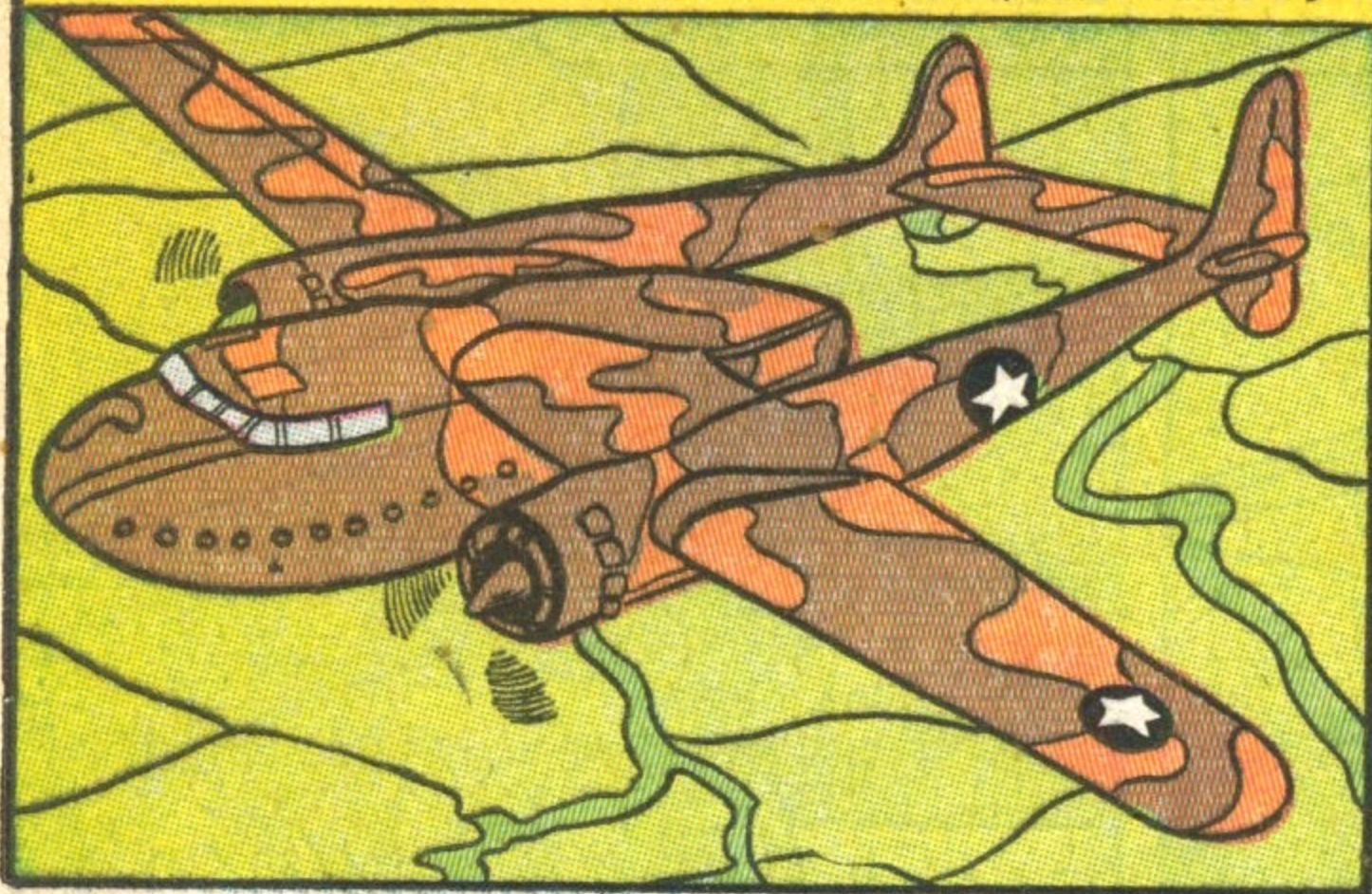


INGENIOUS RECLINING SEATS CAN BE ADJUSTED TO VARIOUS POSITIONS!

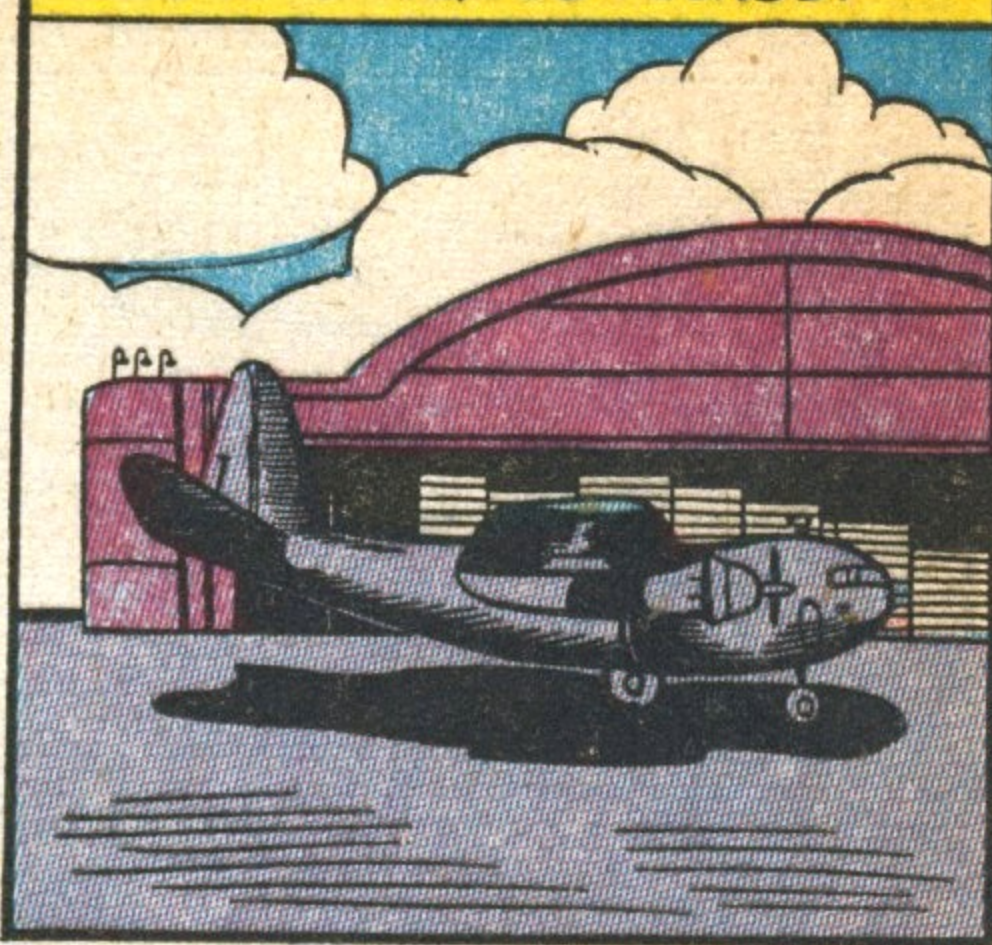
GOLLY, BUT THESE SEATS ARE COMFORTABLE!



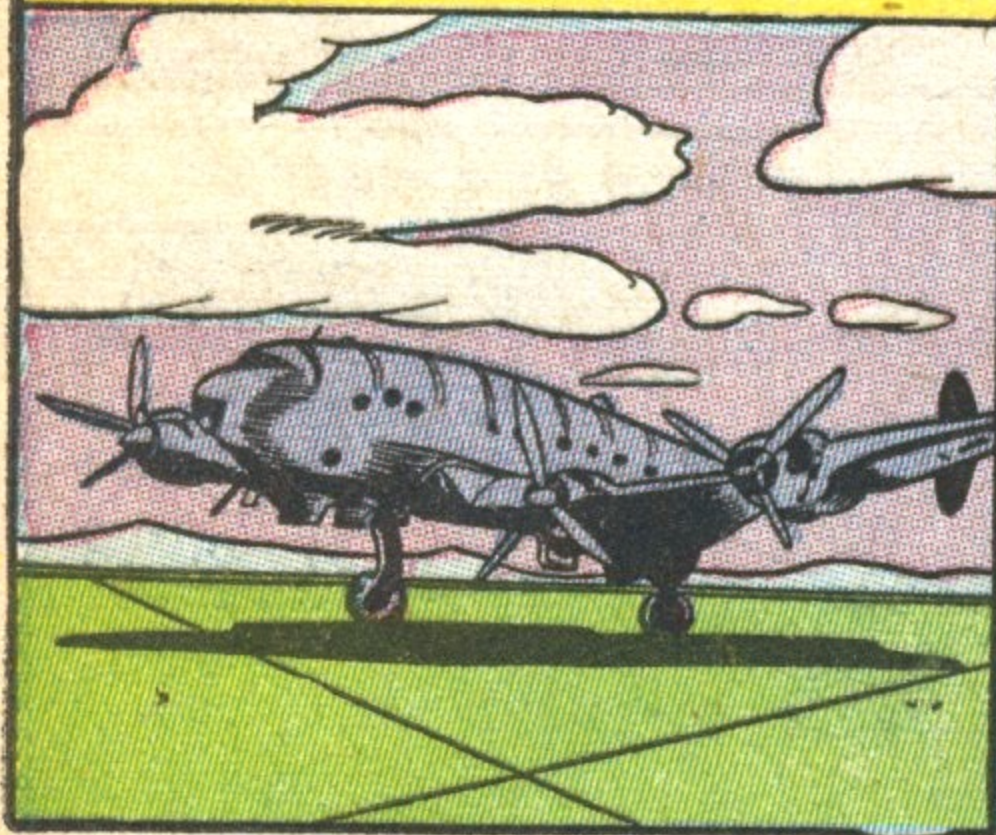
ALTHOUGH OF SECRET DESIGN... FAIRCHILD AVIATION WAS AN ALL PURPOSE CARRIER IN OPERATION FOR THE ARMY-- IT WILL SERVE AFTER THE WAR AS A TRANSPORT WITH A RANGE OF OVER 3,500 MILES!



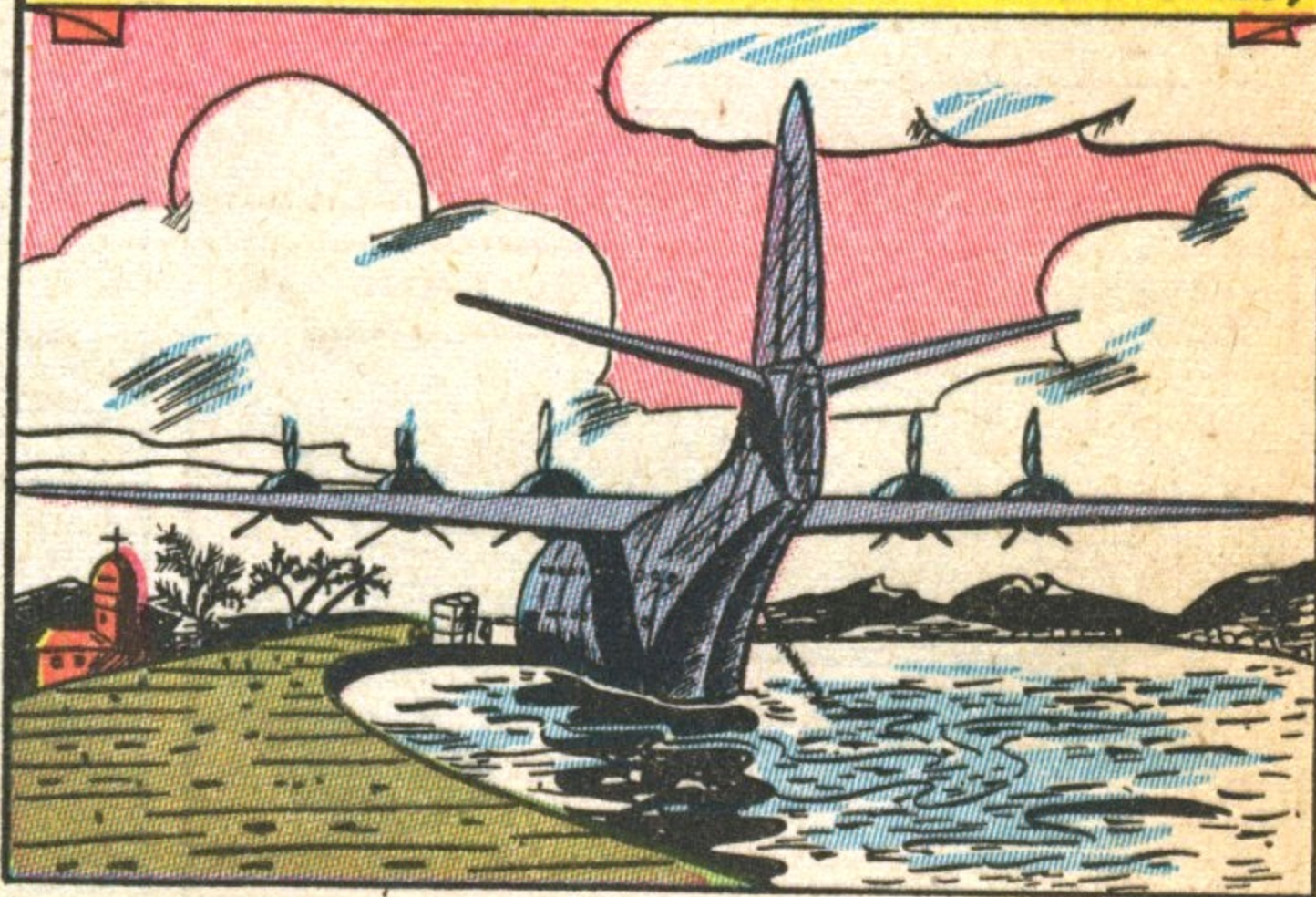
ANOTHER PLANE DESIGNED FOR A SMALL AIRFIELD... THE BUDD CONSTOGA... IS CAPABLE OF LIFTING A PAYLOAD OF 10,400 POUNDS!



PROMISING TO BE ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR POST WAR PLANES... THE LOCKHEED CONSTELLATION--NOW IN USE BY THE ARMY--WILL CARRY OVER 50 PASSENGERS AT 300 MILES PER HOUR!



TWICE AS LARGE AS ANY PLANE NOW IN OPERATION... BOEING'S CLIPPER OF TOMORROW WILL BE A 100 PASSENGER TRANSPORT WITH 6 ENGINES!



MILES 'X'!... A BRITISH POST WAR POSSIBILITY... WILL CARRY 50 PASSENGERS AND A CREW OF FIVE!



SEVERAL ROOMY STATEROOMS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PASSENGERS!

MOMMY... PLEASE READ ME ANOTHER STORY!

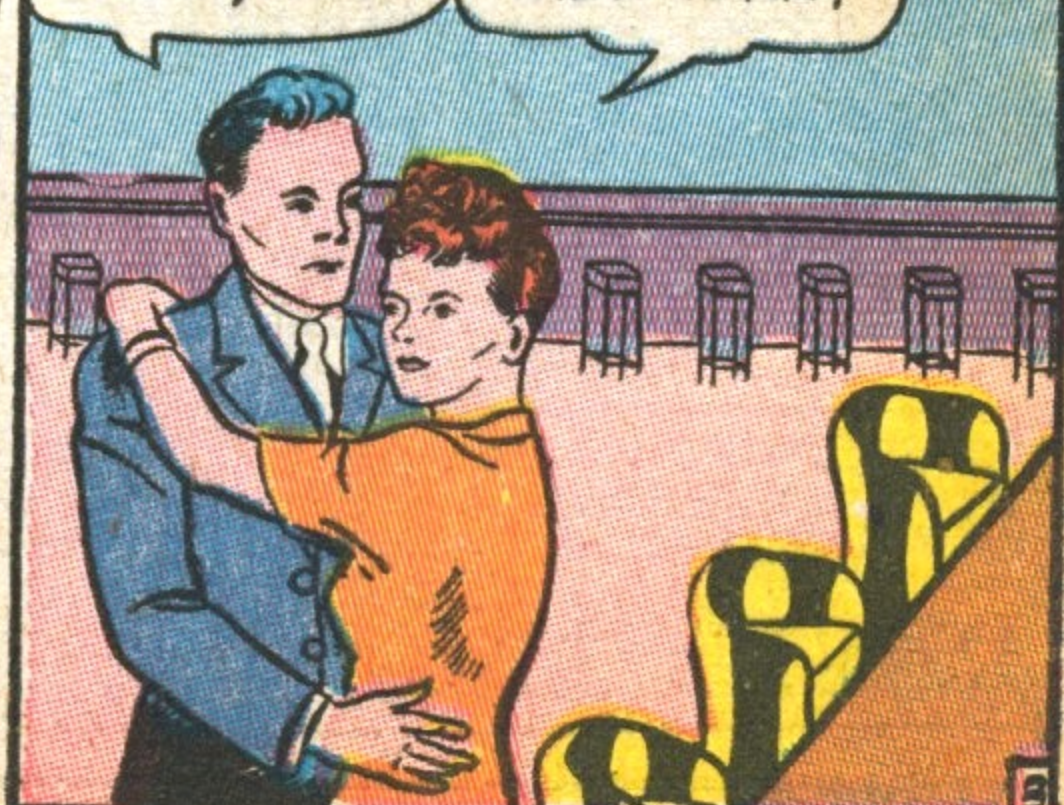
NO, GWENDOLYN... WE'RE DUE AT NEW YORK IN 10 MINUTES!



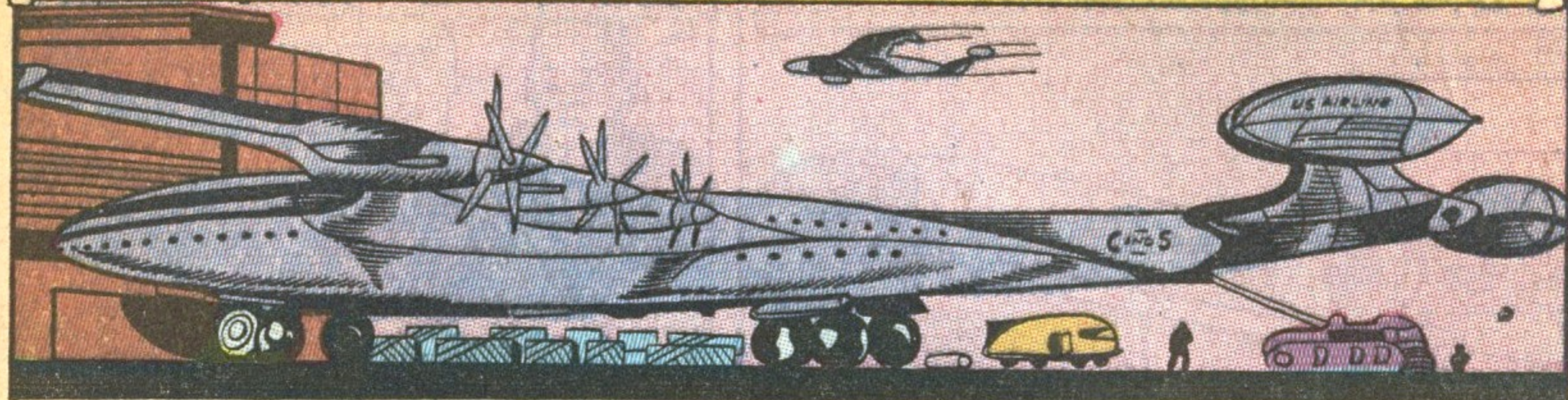
SPACIOUS DINING ROOMS AND LOUNGES WILL BE FEATURED ON TRANS-OCEAN PLANES!

THIS HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL DANCE, ALICE!

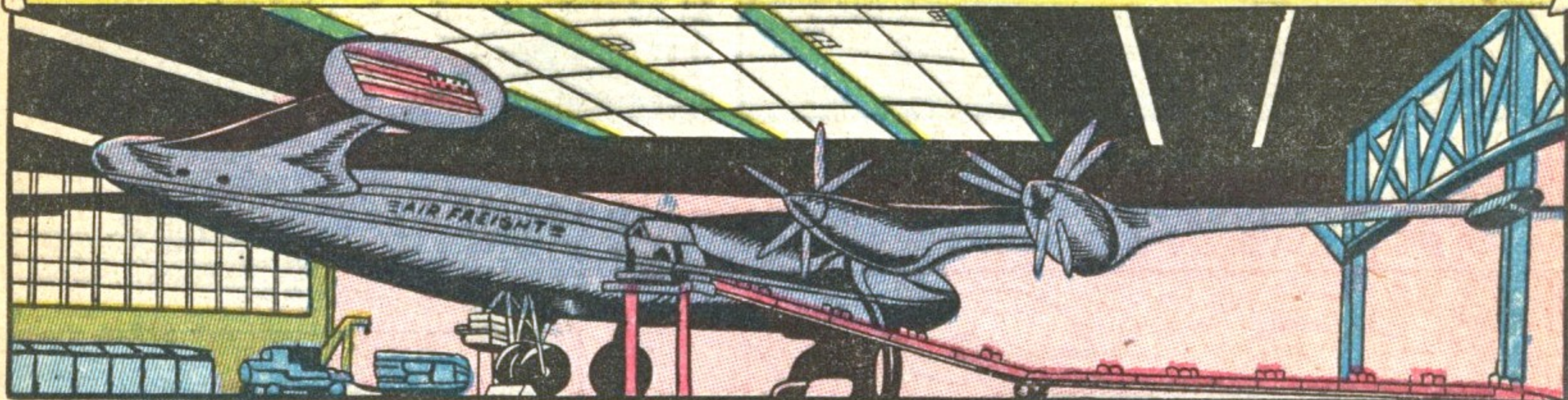
IT HAS BEEN A NON-STOP DANCE FROM LONDON TO NEW YORK!



THIS IS THE CELESTIALINER... DESIGNED BY THE CHICAGO AND SOUTHERN AIR LINES TO ACCOMMODATE 100 PASSENGERS AND A CREW OF 20 IN THE 6 ENGINE SHIP!



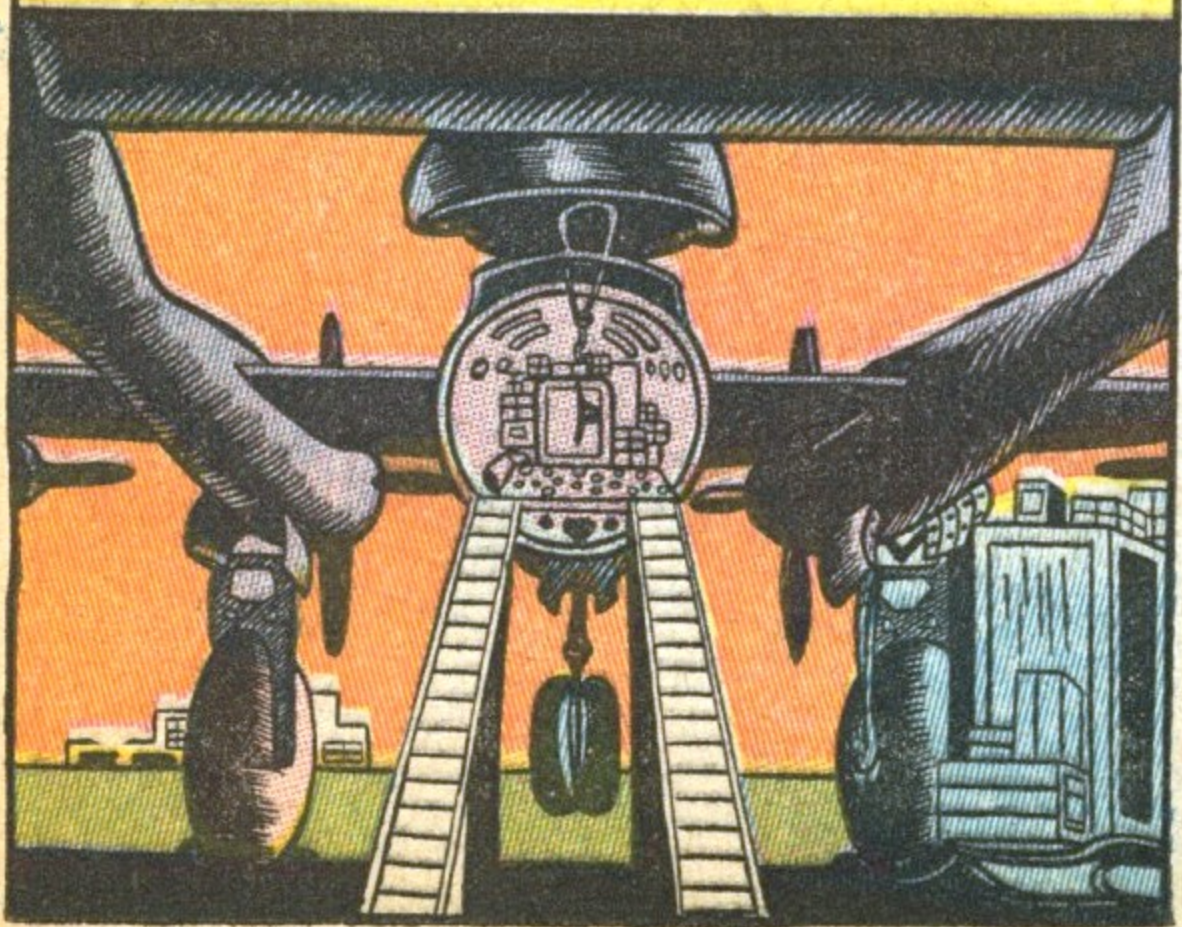
AIR FREIGHT WILL BE HAULED AROUND THE WORLD BY FLYING BOX CARS... WHICH WILL WEIGH OVER 100 TONS--AND WILL REQUIRE CONCRETE RUNWAYS, 24 INCHES THICK!



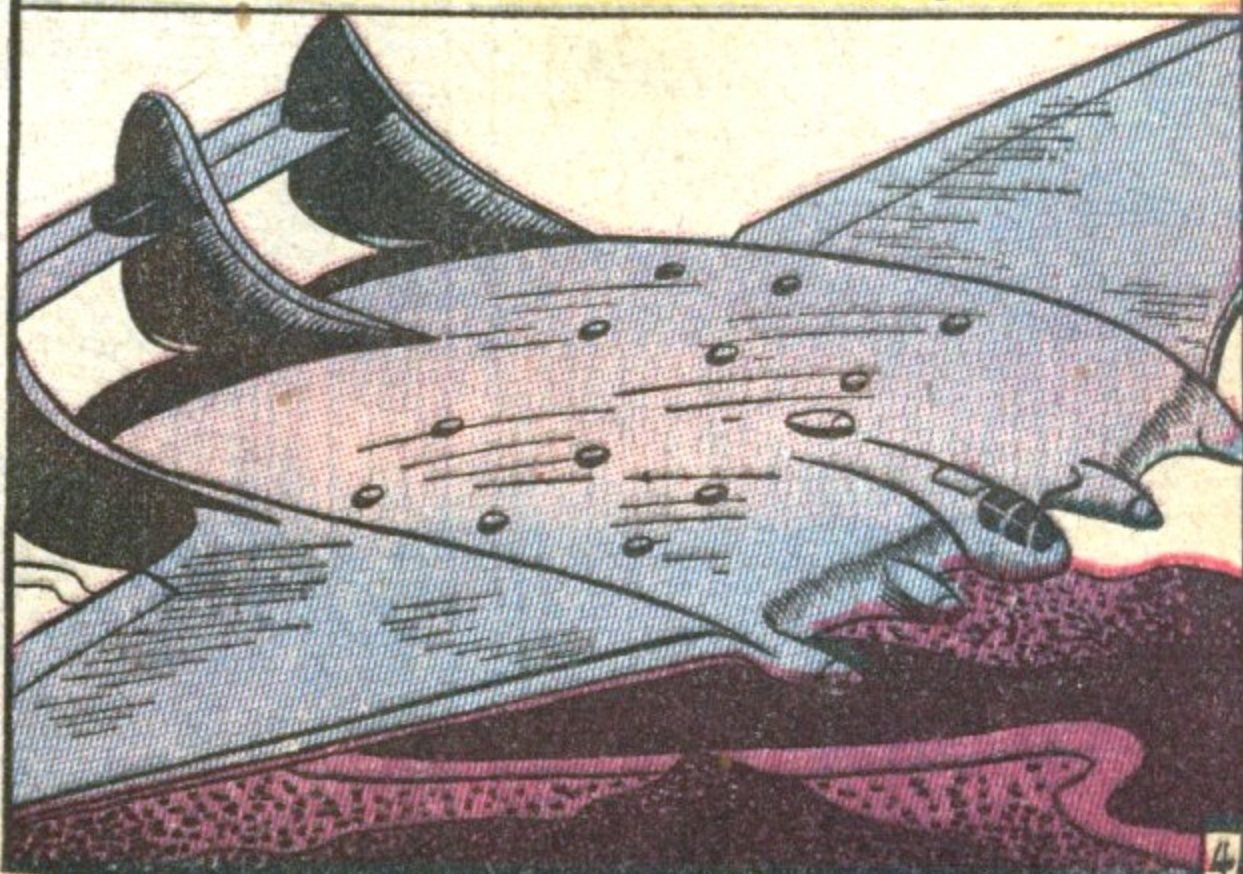
PASSENGERS WILL BE FERRIED FROM AIRPORTS TO CITY TERMINALS BY A FLEET OF ROOMY HELICOPTERS!



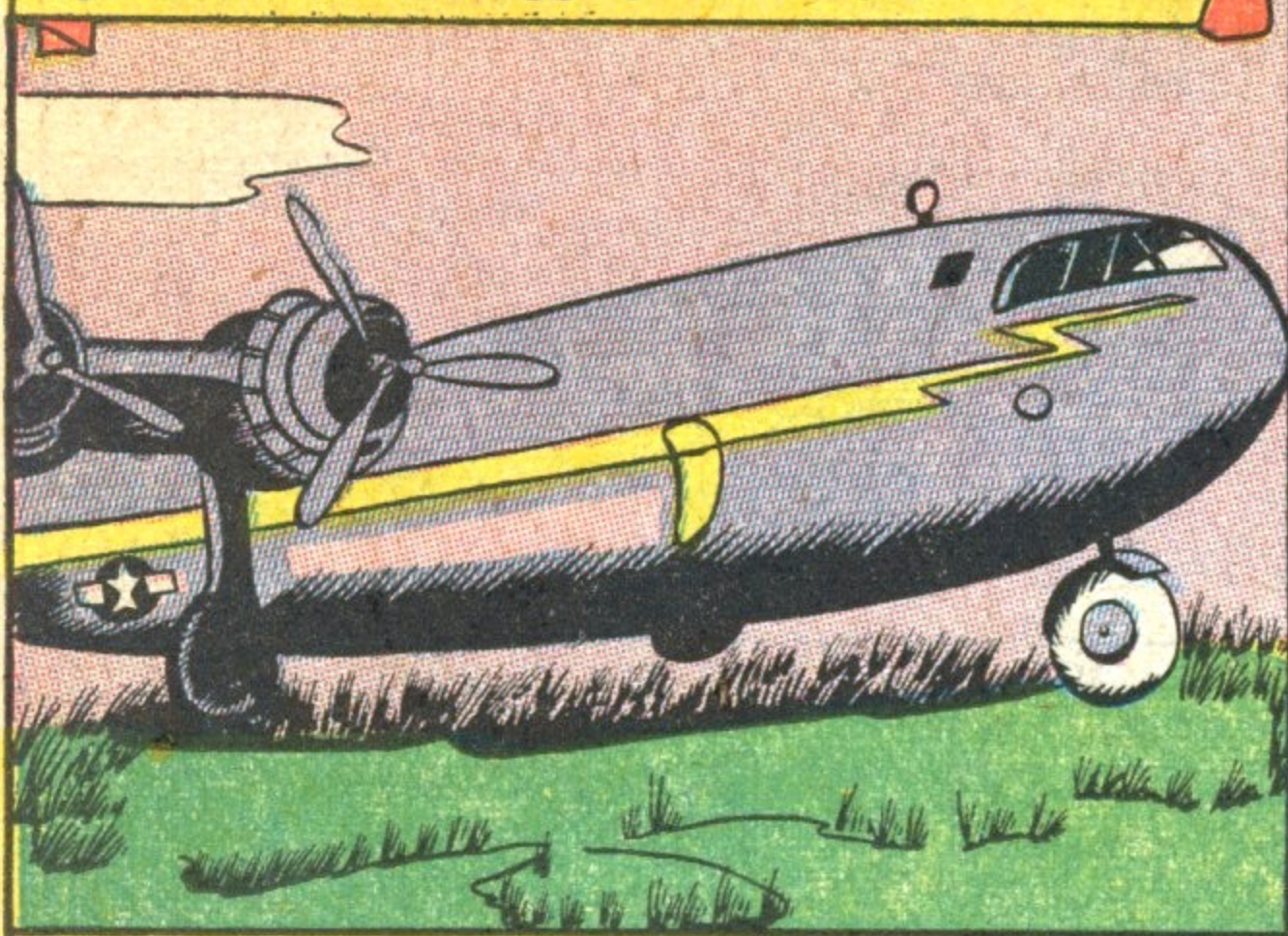
ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING CARGO SHIPS OF THE FUTURE, IS THE VAN ZEIM CARGO PLANE... WITH A COLLAPSIBLE RAMP AT THE AFT, FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING FREIGHT!



RESEMBLING A MONSTROUS BAT... THE FLYING WING DESIGNED BY BURNELLI FOR COLONIAL AIRLINES... WILL HAVE A 2,000 MILE CRUISING RANGE AT 180 MPH... AND WILL CARRY A PAYLOAD OF 40 TONS!



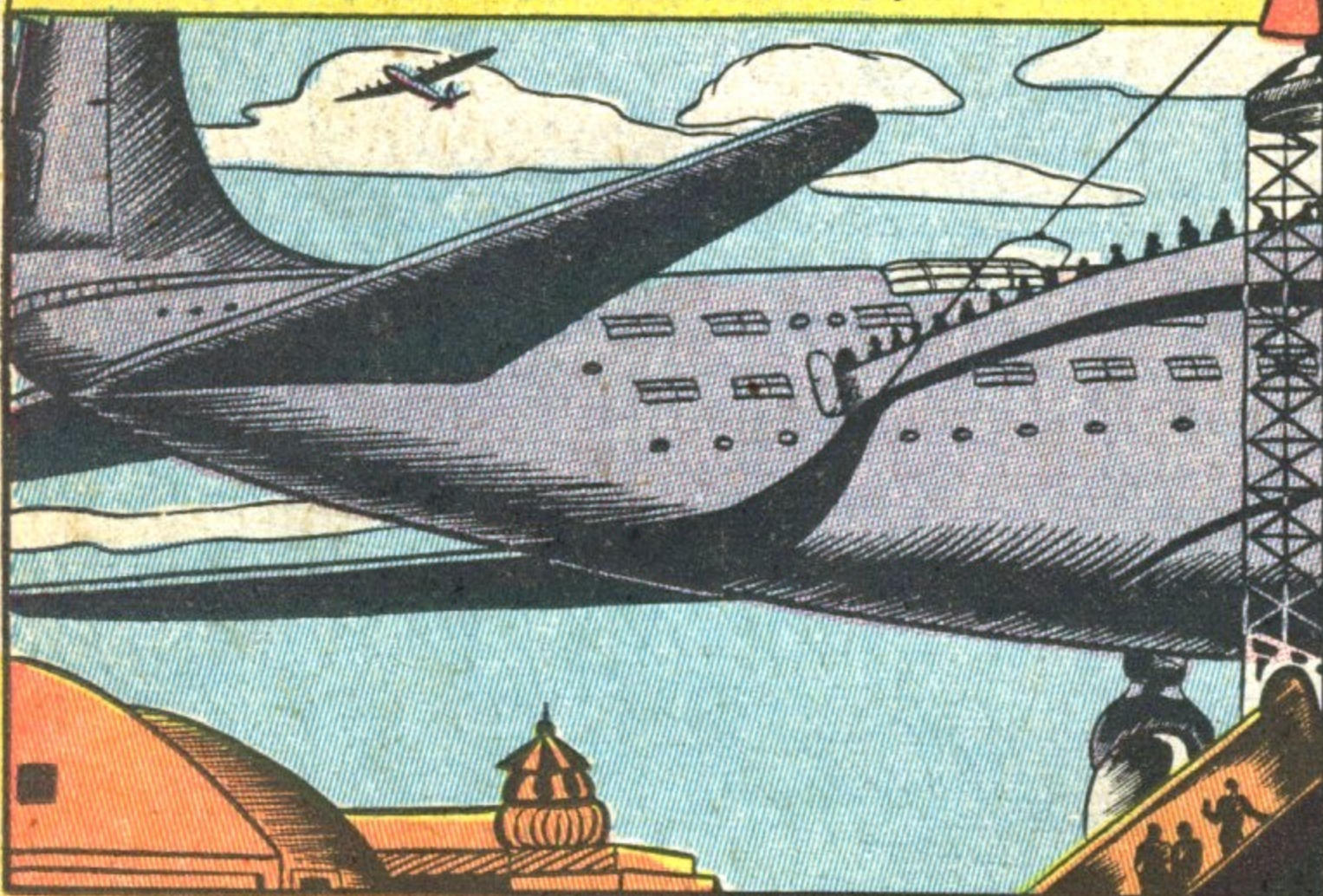
AFTER THE WAR...THIS LIBERATOR LINER--A COMMERCIAL VERSION OF THE B-24--WILL STRESS PASSENGERS' COMFORT!



THE LIBERATOR LINER WILL PROVIDE A PRIVATE OFFICE FOR BUSINESS MEETING IN FLIGHT!



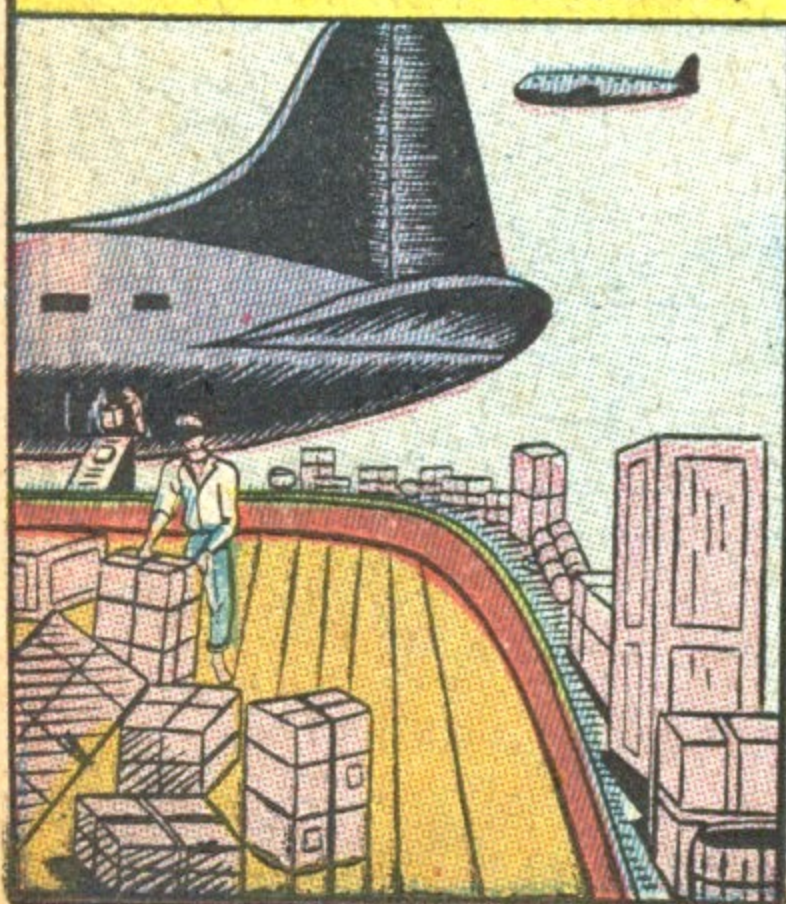
UNITED AIR LINES FORESEES PLANES OF SUCH TREMENDOUS SIZE THAT PASSENGERS WILL REACH SHIPS BY MEANS OF ELEVATORS!



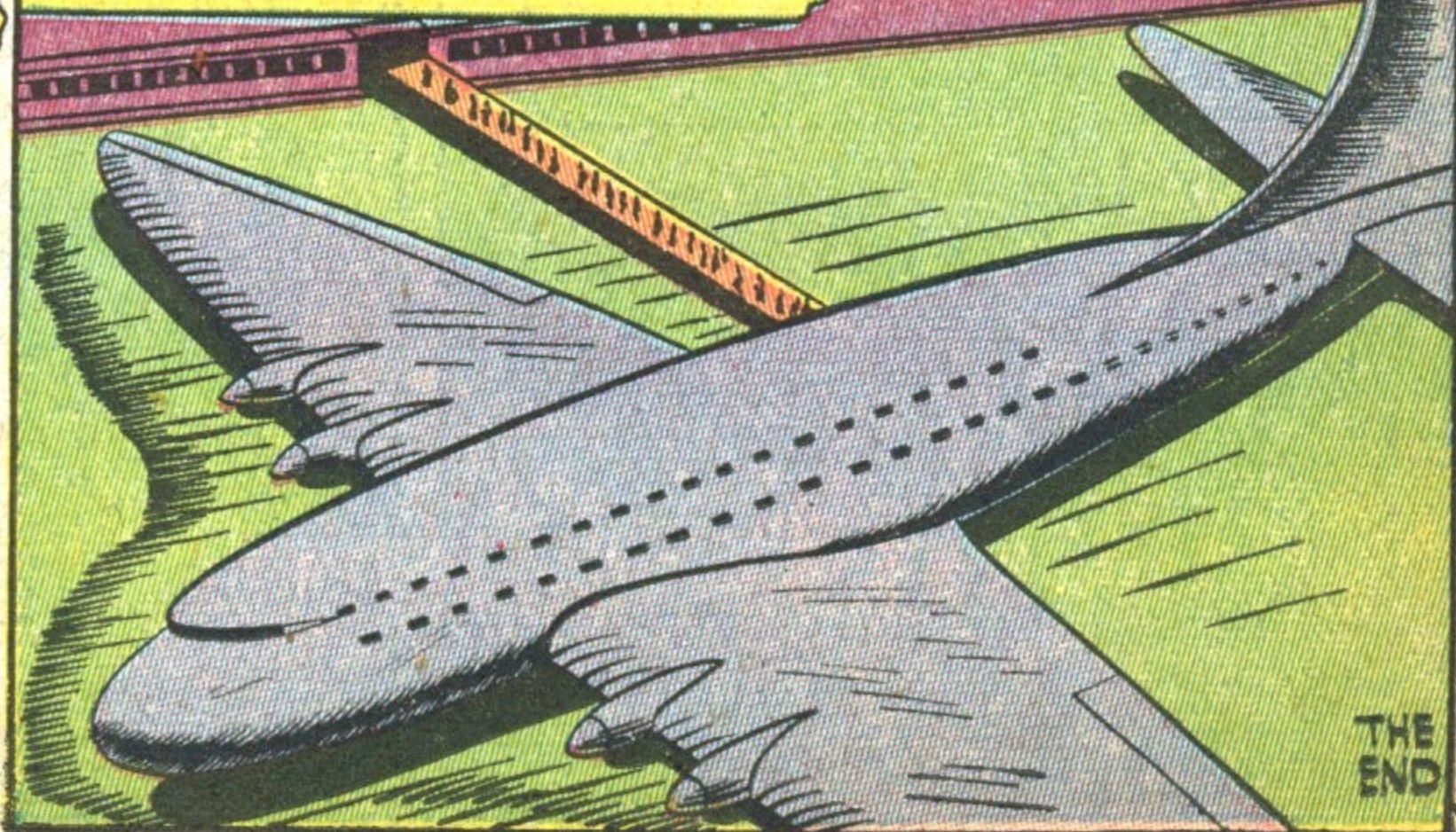
UNITED AIR CRUISERS OF SUPER SIZE WILL LOWER TRAVEL COSTS MAKING ROUND-THE-WORLD-TRIPS AVAILABLE TO THE MASSES!



UNITED ALSO BELIEVES THAT LONG RANGE FOUR ENGINE CARGO PLANES WILL HAUL ENORMOUS LOADS CROSS-COUNTRY--IN A FEW HOURS!

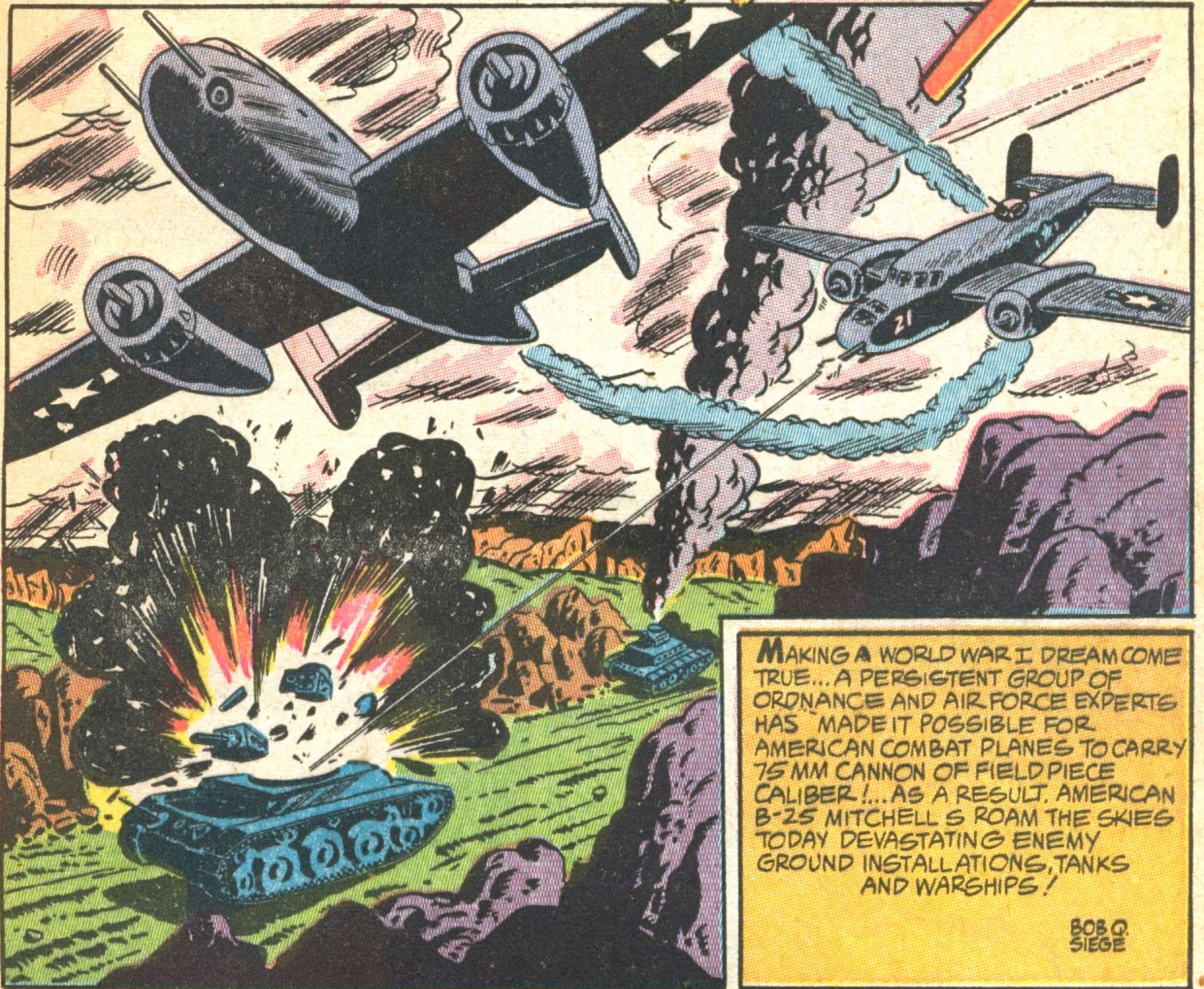


IN THE SKYLINERS OF TOMORROW--IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE INGENUITY, SKILL AND VAST RESOURCES OF THE AVIATION INDUSTRY OF AMERICA!



CANNON WITH

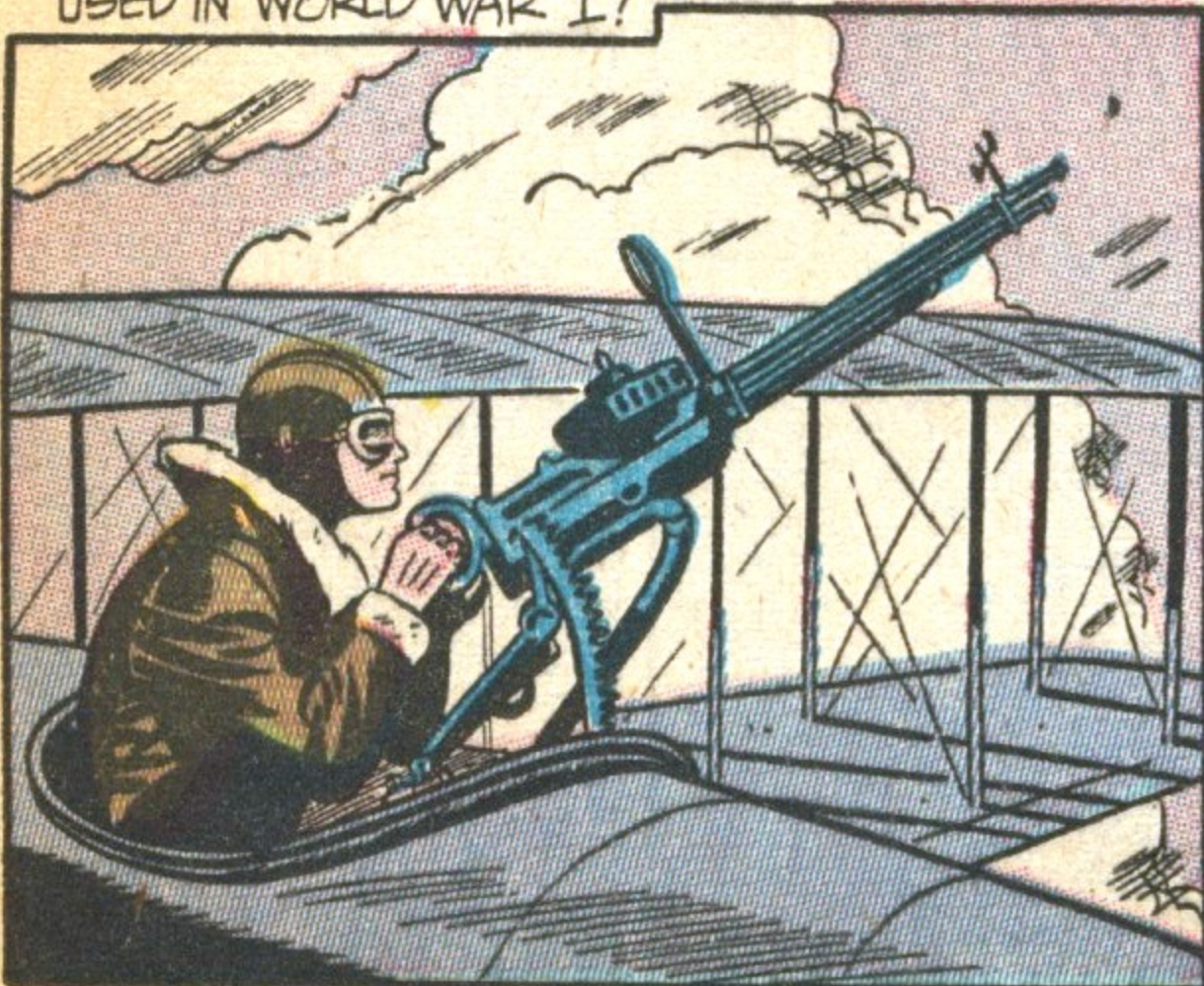
Wings



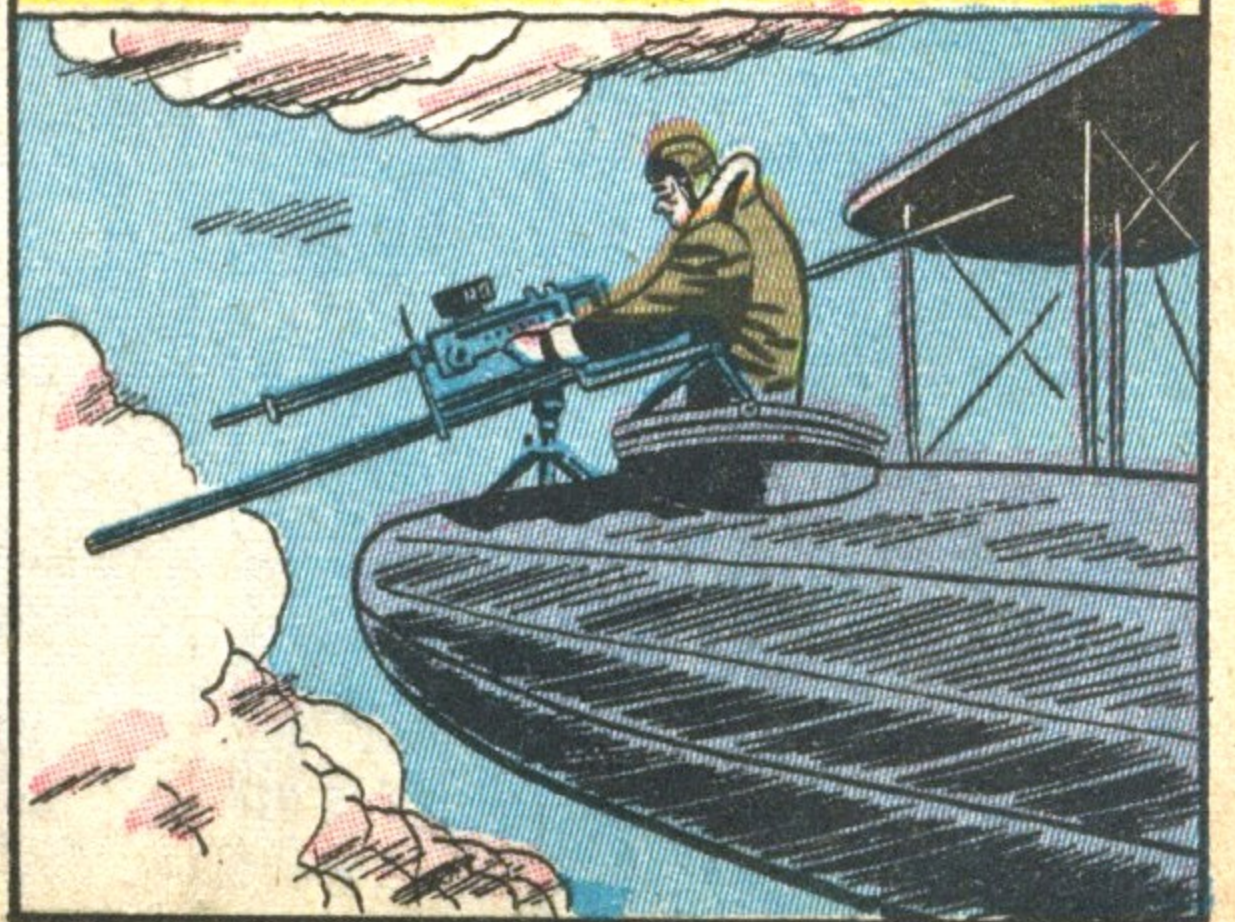
MAKING A WORLD WAR I DREAM COME TRUE... A PERSISTENT GROUP OF ORDNANCE AND AIR FORCE EXPERTS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR AMERICAN COMBAT PLANES TO CARRY 75 MM CANNON OF FIELD PIECE CALIBER!... AS A RESULT, AMERICAN B-25 MITCHELLS ROAM THE SKIES TODAY DEVASTATING ENEMY GROUND INSTALLATIONS, TANKS AND WARSHIPS!

BOB Q. SIEGE

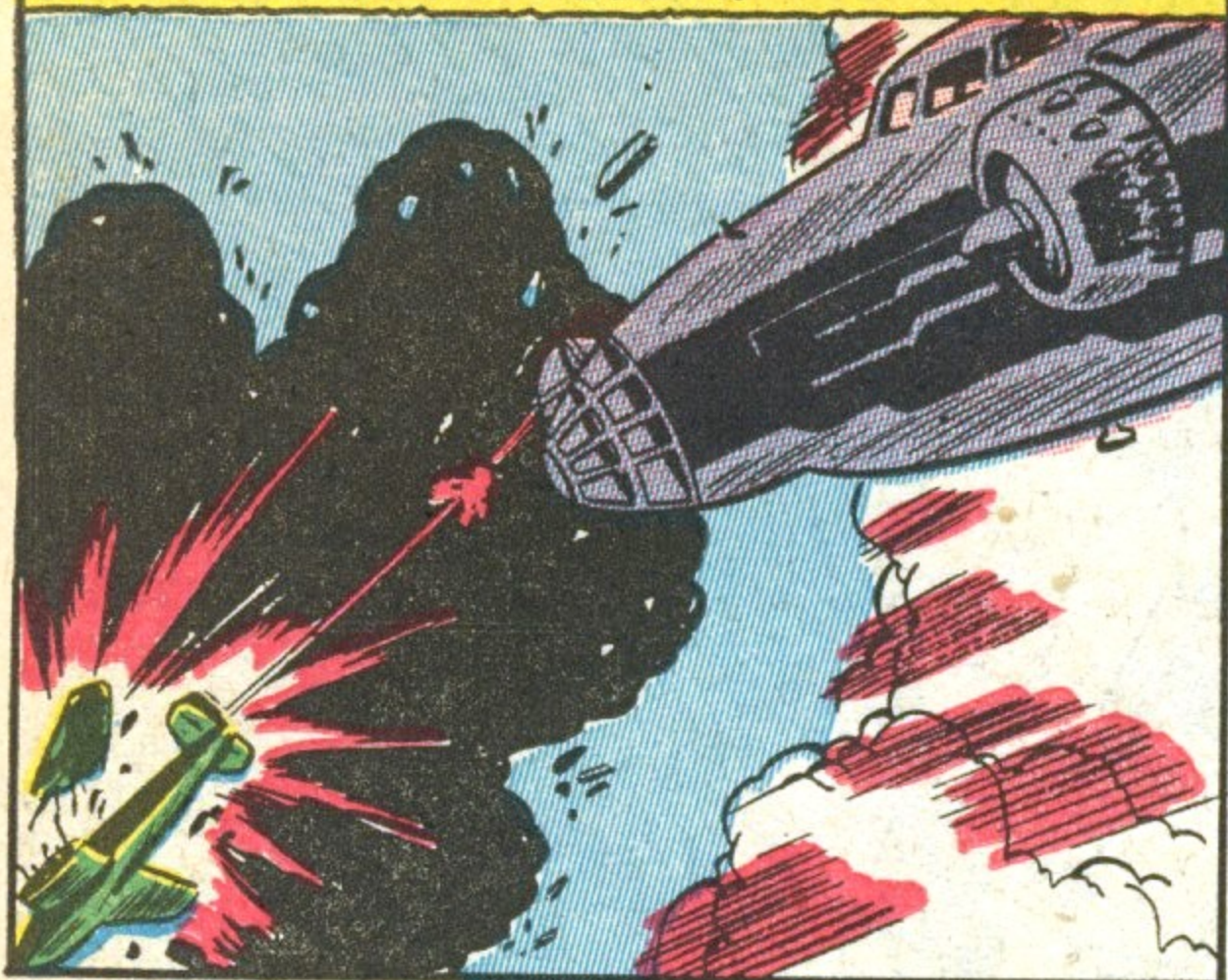
The FIRST REAL WEAPONS MOUNTED IN PLANES WERE .30 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS, EXTENSIVELY USED IN WORLD WAR I!



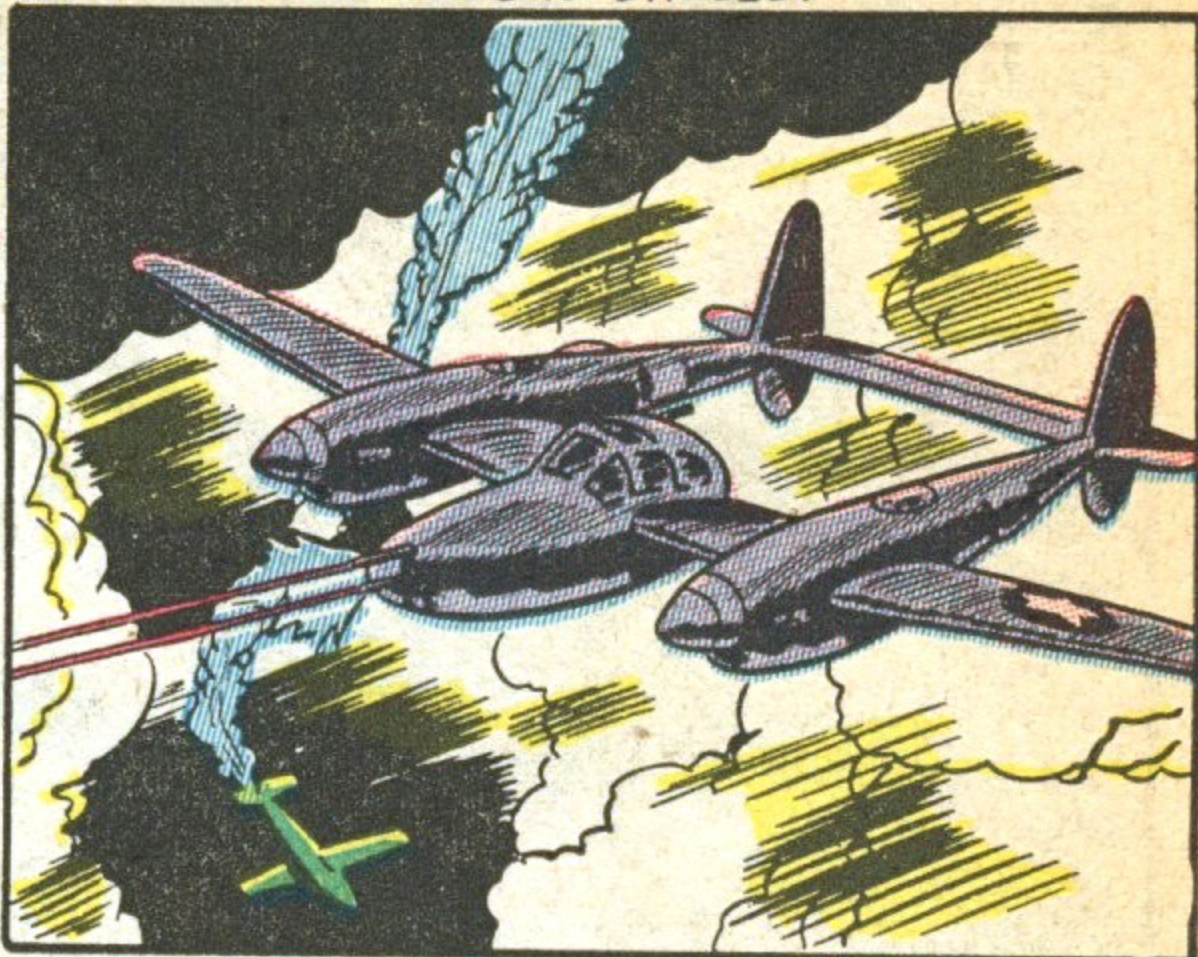
THE FIRST ATTEMPT AT USING HEAVY CALIBER WAS WITH THE DAVIS CANNON!... ALSO DURING WORLD WAR I... BUT IT WAS SO CLUMSY TO HANDLE THAT EVENTUALLY IT WAS ABANDONED!



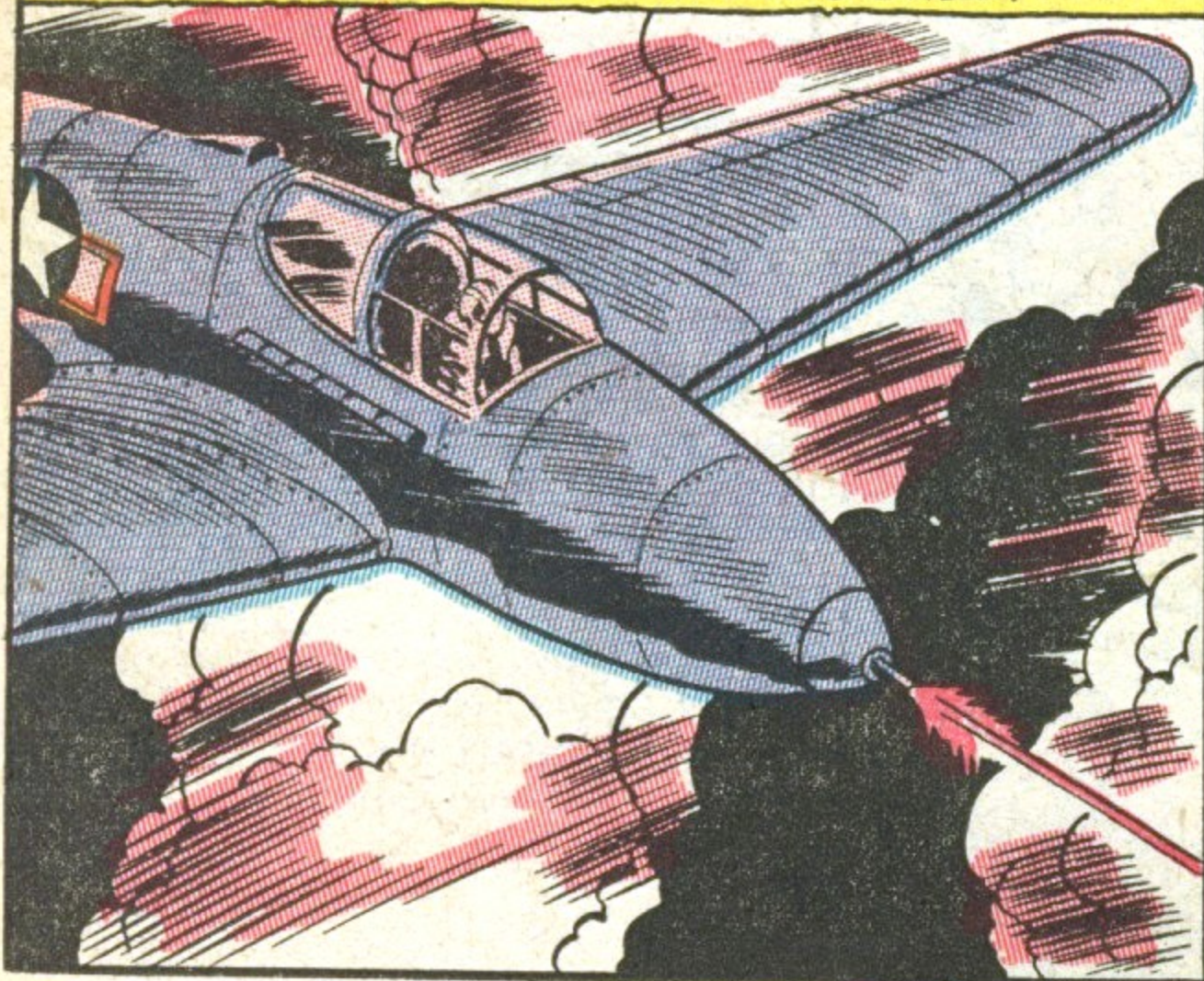
IN 1935, EXPERIMENTS WERE MADE WITH .50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS IN B-17'S... AND SINCE HAVE BECOME OUR STAPLE OF FIRE POWER!



LONG A FAVORITE WITH FOREIGN POWERS... A 20 MM CANNON WAS INSTALLED IN OUR P-38 LIGHTNINGS DURING 1941!... THE FIRST AIR GUN TO FIRE EXPLOSIVE SHELLS!



Then came the 37 MM CANNON... AROUND WHICH THE P-39 BELL AIRACOBRA WAS DESIGNED!



BUT ORDNANCE MEN WERE NOT SATISFIED!

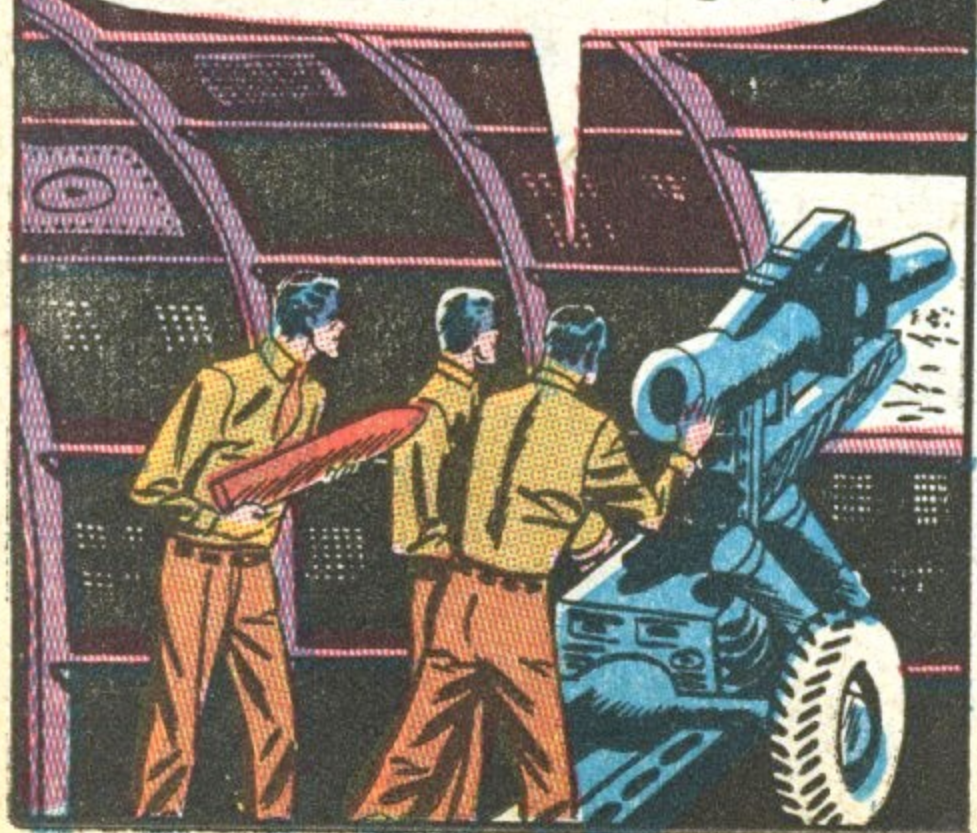
YOU KNOW, BILL, I STILL THINK WE CAN MAKE 75 MM CANNONS WORK IN MODERN PLANES!

YEAH... BUT HOW? HOW CAN WE DO IT?



FINALLY... ORDNANCE MEN DECIDE TO INSTALL AN OLD STYLE FRENCH 75 CANNON IN THE FUSELAGE OF A JUNKED B-18!

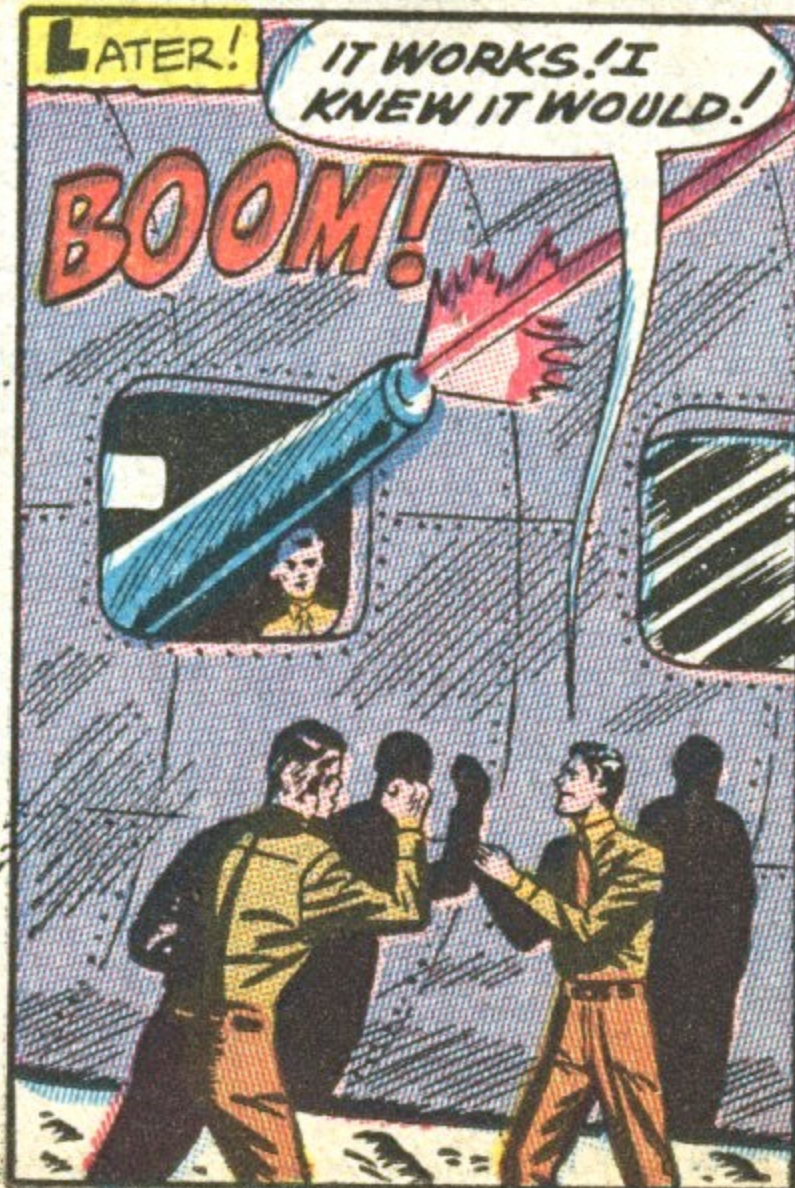
BY FIRING THE CANNON FROM THE INSIDE, WE CAN EASILY TEST THE REACTION OF THE FUSELAGE TO THE SHOCK OF EXPLOSION!



LATER!

IT WORKS! I KNEW IT WOULD!

BOOM!



WHAT NOW, CAPTAIN?

WE'VE GOT TO PUT THOSE CANNONS IN PLANES THAT FLY!



Then, CAPTAIN HORACE A. QUINN, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT VISITED THE ARMY AIR FORCES!



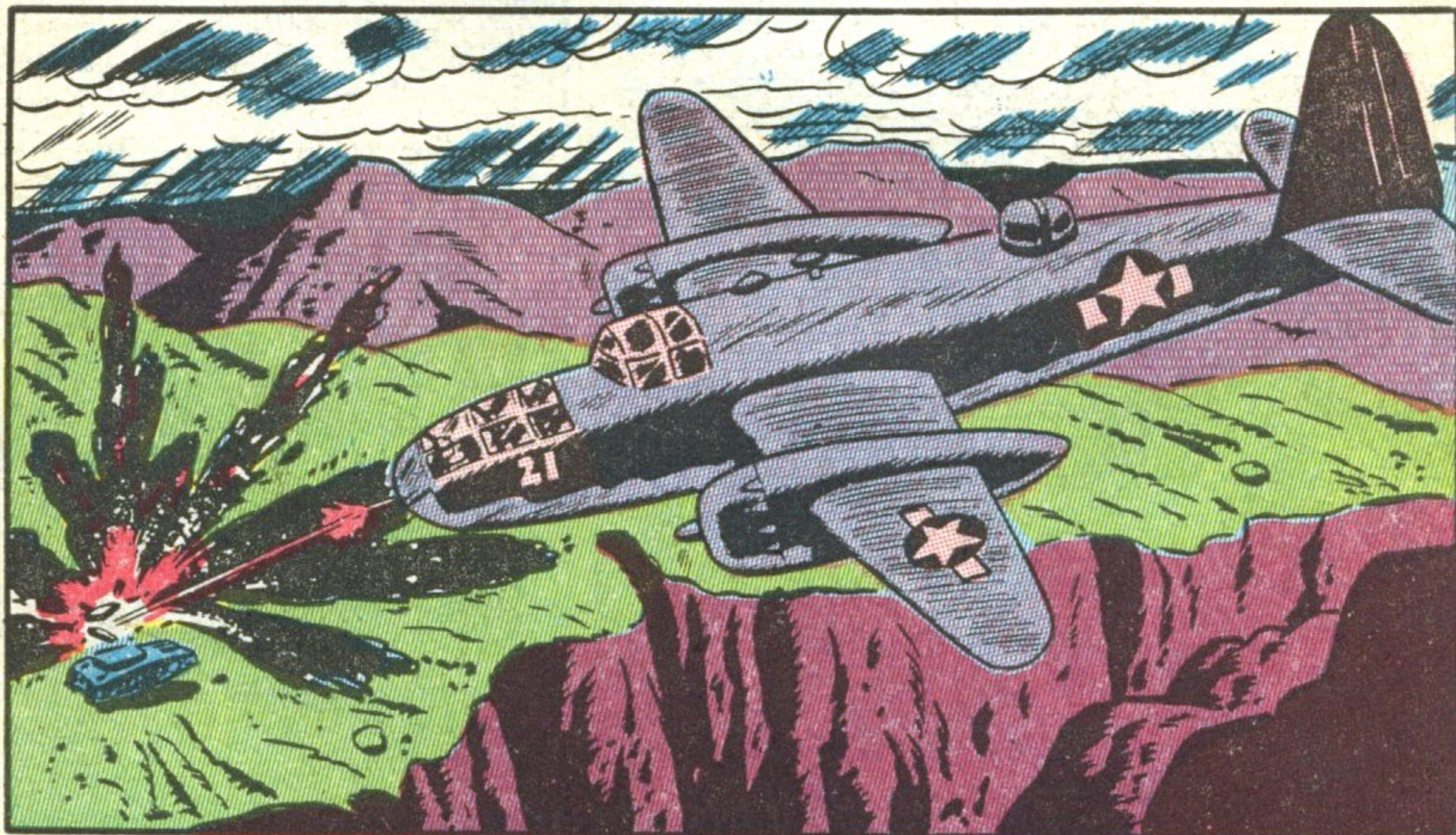
CAPTAIN QUINN INSISTED ON FIRING THE FIRST ROUNDS FROM THE MAKESHIFT MOUNT!... UNWILLING FOR HIS MEN TO RISK DEATH!



WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE WATERLIET AND ROCK ISLAND ARSENALS, DIFFERENT MOUNTS WERE DEVELOPED!... EACH MORE EFFECTIVE AND LIGHTER THAN THE LAST!



FURTHER MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE!... AND IN 1940 AN IMPROVED MODEL WAS DEMONSTRATED BEFORE THE AIR CORPS BOARD AT ELGIN FIELD, ORLANDO, FLORIDA!



UNDER THE DIRECTION OF COLONEL G.M. BARNES, SEVERAL INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS PRODUCED 75 MM AIRCRAFT CANNON EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN THE OLD FRENCH 75!



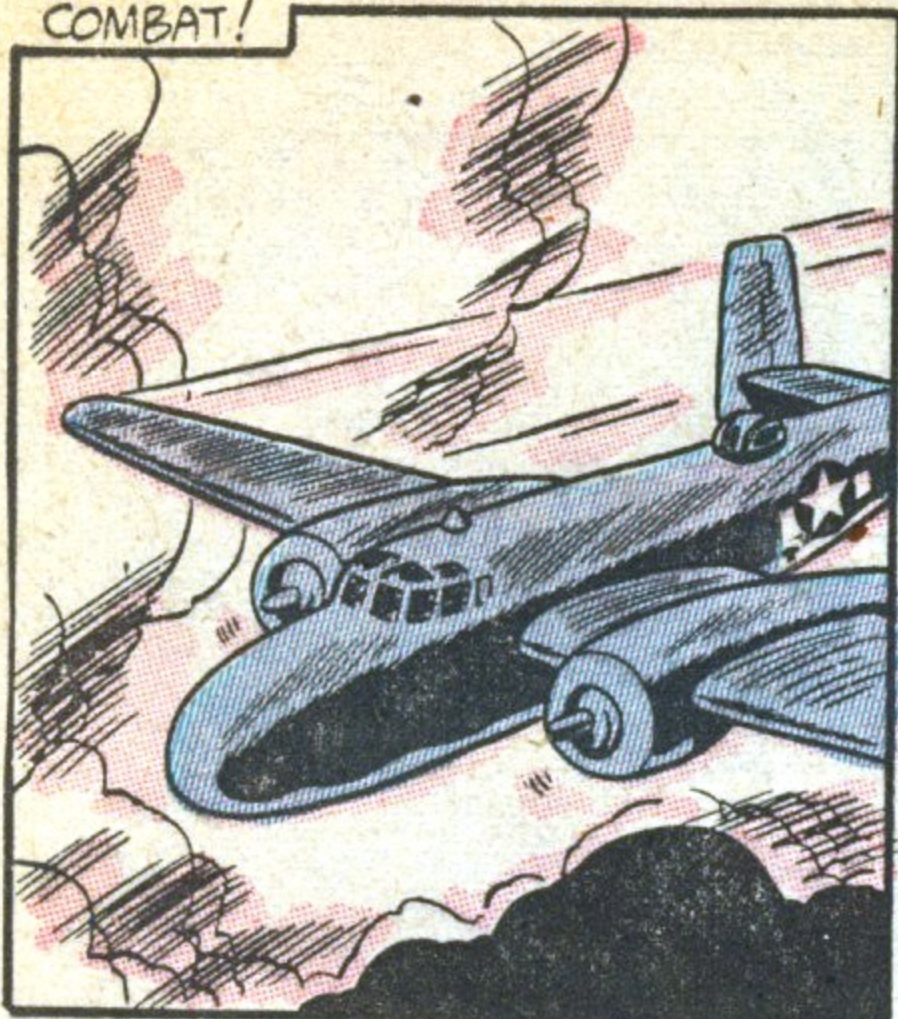
GENTLEMEN, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT FULL CREDIT FOR DEVELOPING THE RECOIL MECHANISM OF THIS CANNON GOES TO OUR OWN ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT ENGINEER, VICTOR F. LUCHT!



AFTER EXHAUSTIVE GROUND TESTS, THE NEW CANNON WAS TAKEN INTO THE AIR!... WITH CAPTAIN QUINN AGAIN FIRING THE FIRST ROUNDS!



BATTLE PROVED ON EVERY WAR FRONT, THE MITCHELL B-25 WAS SELECTED TO TAKE THE NEW CANNON INTO COMBAT!



NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION OFFICIALS WERE GIVEN BLUEPRINTS OF THE GUN IN AUGUST, 1942...AND THEN PLUNGED INTO THE HERCULEAN TASK OF INSTALLING THE REVOLUTIONARY CANNON INTO COMBAT AIRCRAFT FOR THE FIRST TIME!



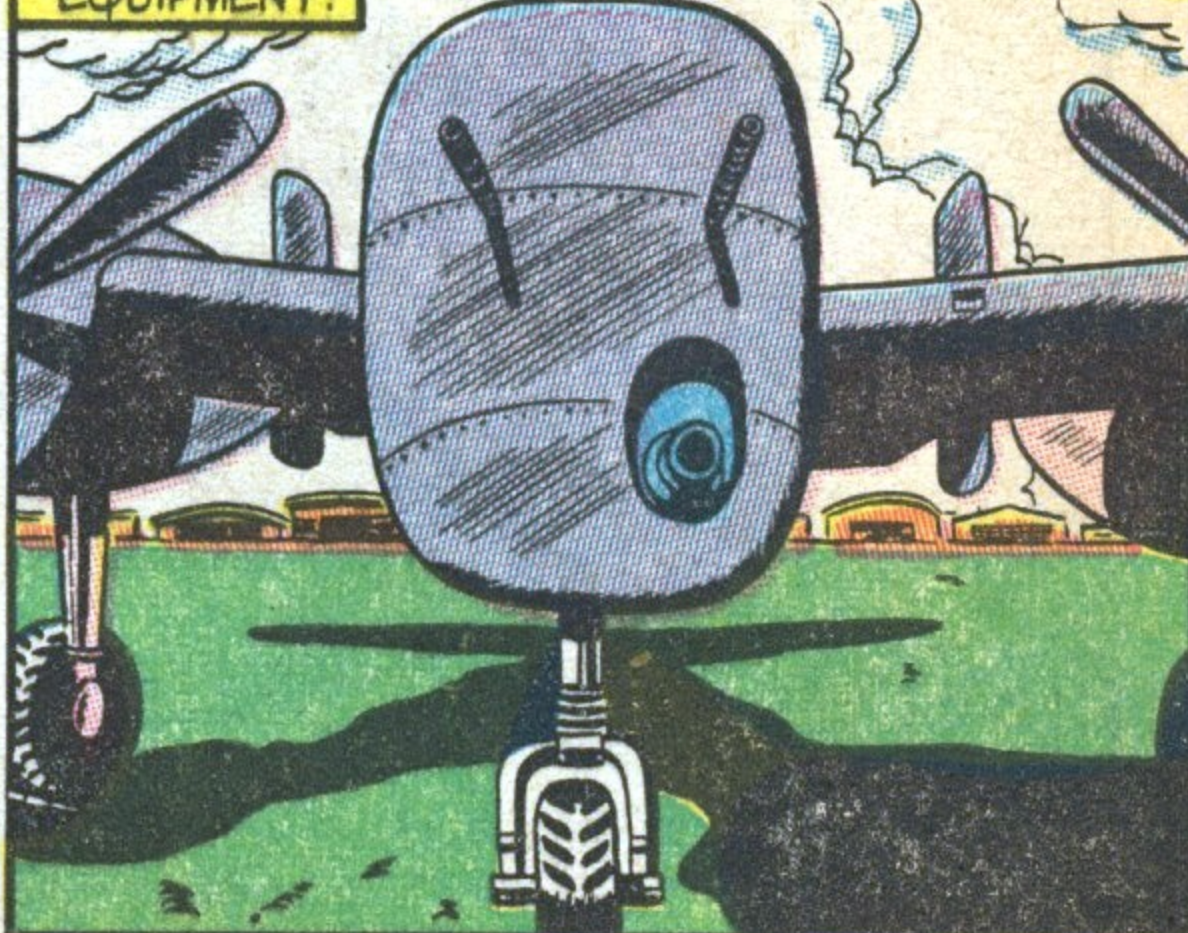
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, SECTIONS OF THE ALTERED FUSELAGES WERE SECRETLY TAKEN TO ISOLATED SECTIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA COAST FOR TESTING ON A 200 YARD RANGE!



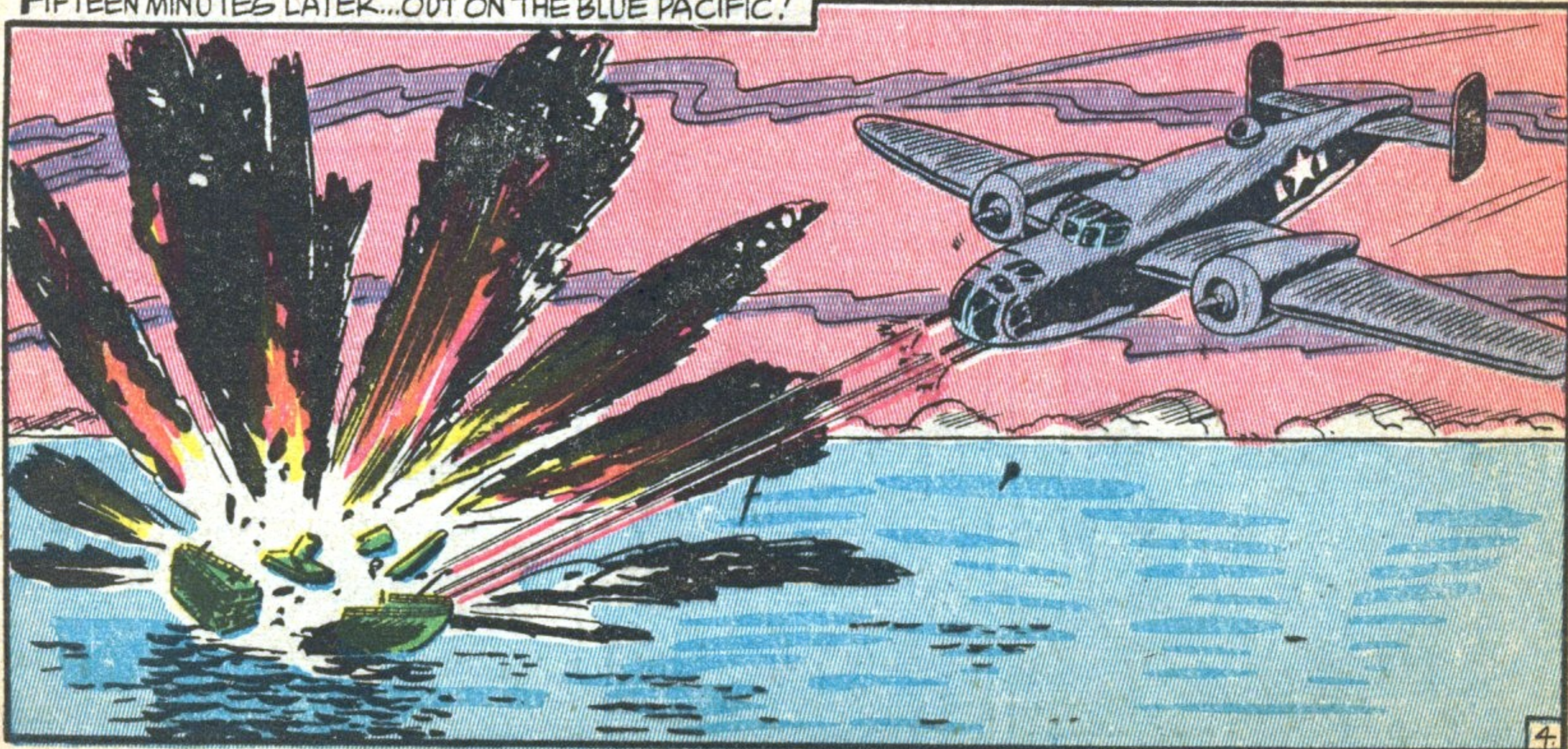
THREE MONTHS AFTER NORTH AMERICAN RECEIVED THE BLUEPRINTS...IN MID NOVEMBER, 1942...TEST PILOT, ROGER RUDD, CLIMBED INTO THE COCKPIT OF HIS B-25, FOR THE FIRST PRODUCTION TEST OF THE NEW MIRACLE CANNON PLANE!



THE FLYING CANNON POINTS ITS NOSE FROM A CONCAVE PORT IN THE LOWER LEFT CORNER OF THE METAL CLAD NOSE SECTION!...WITH TWO 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS AS AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT!



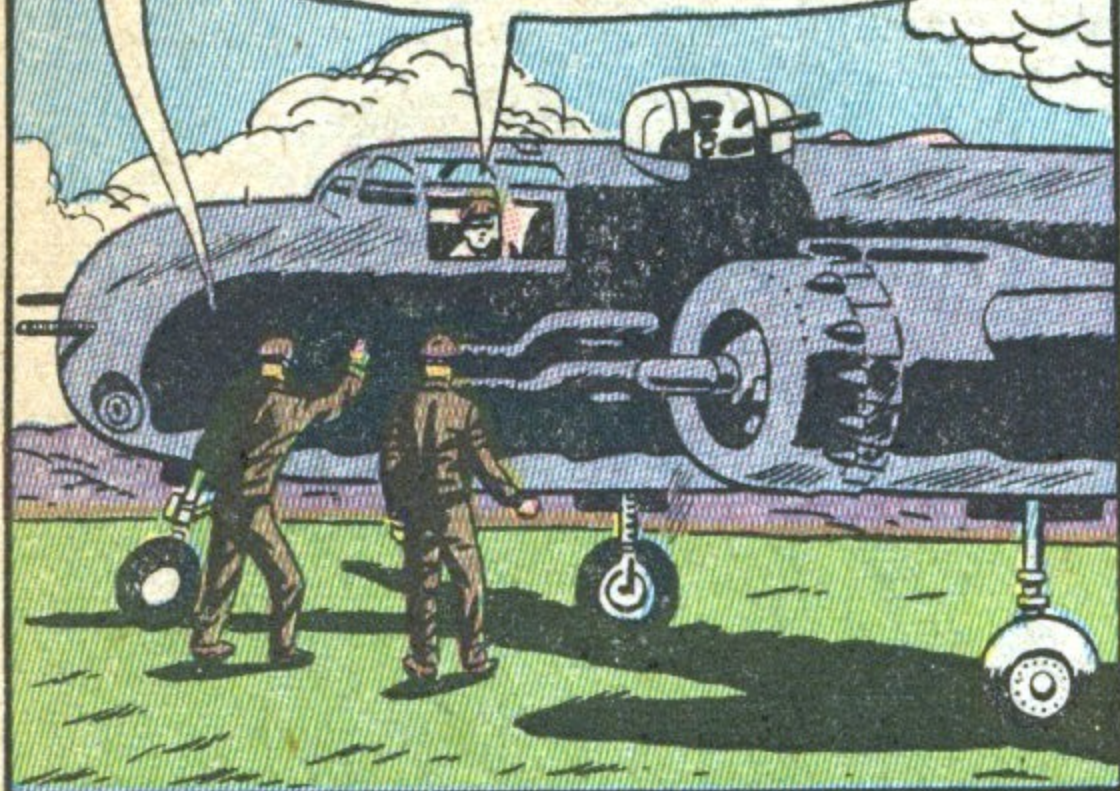
FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...OUT ON THE BLUE PACIFIC!



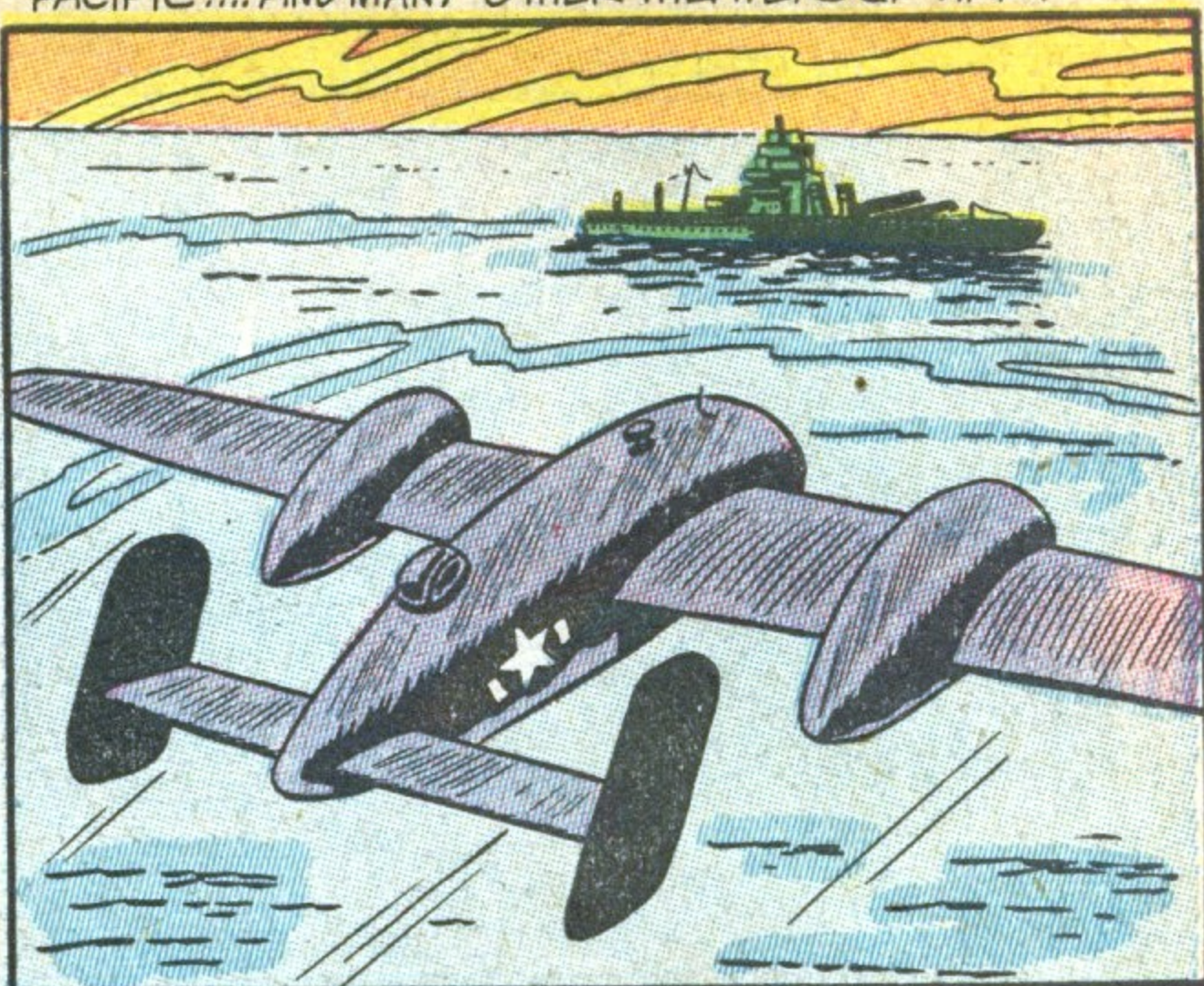
WHEN TEST PILOT RUDD RETURNED!...

HOW'D YOU MAKE OUT, RUDD?

I RAPPED OFF OVER TWO HUNDRED IN A MILD GLIDE, WITH A GOOD HUSKY JOLT! THERE WAS SCARCELY ANY NOISE!... AND SHE DIDN'T DECELERATE A BIT! IT'S A GREAT CANNON AND A GREAT SHIP!



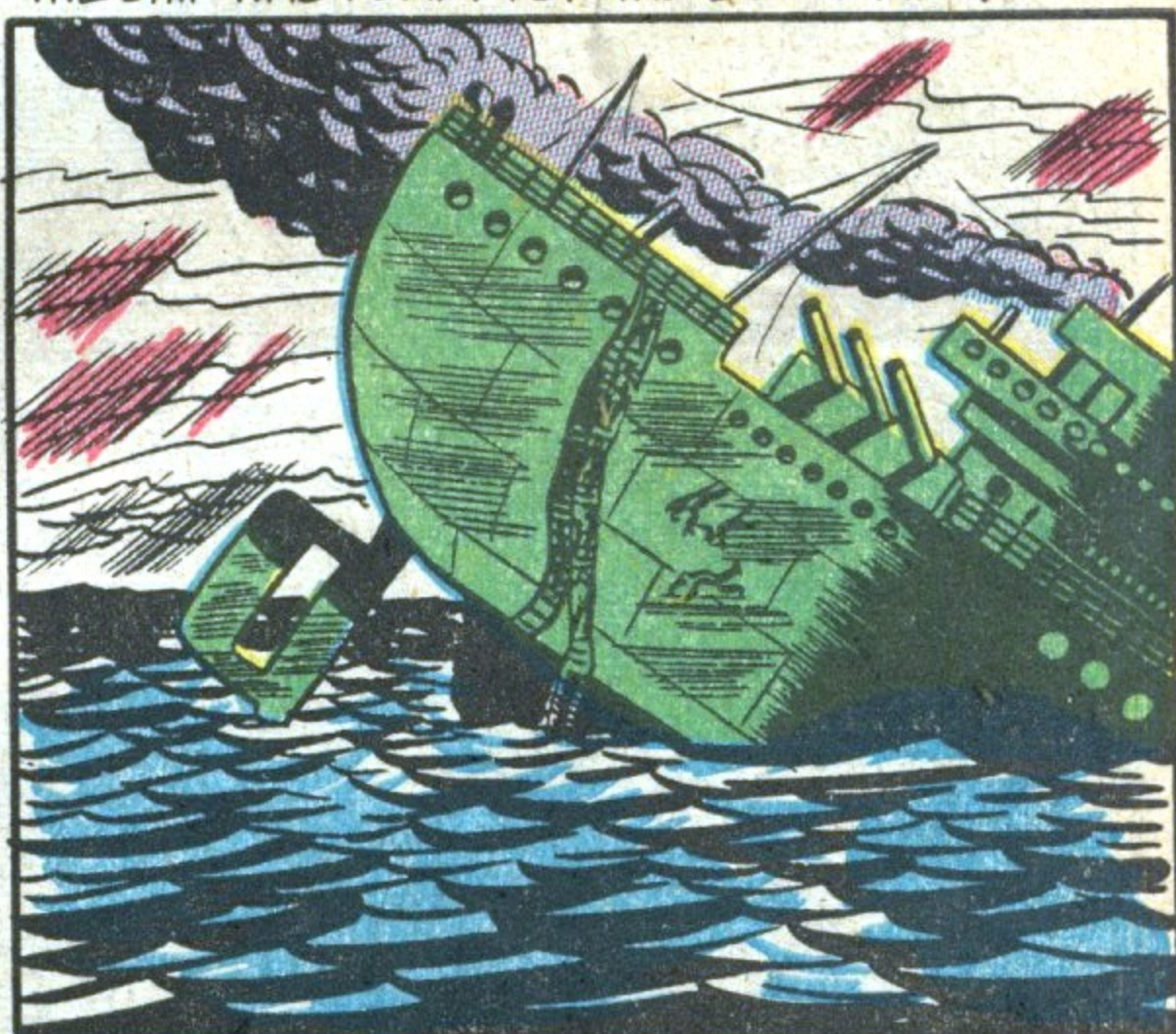
SINCE THEN, THE FLYING 75 HAS SEEN ACTION IN THE PACIFIC!... AND MANY OTHER THEATERS OF WAR!



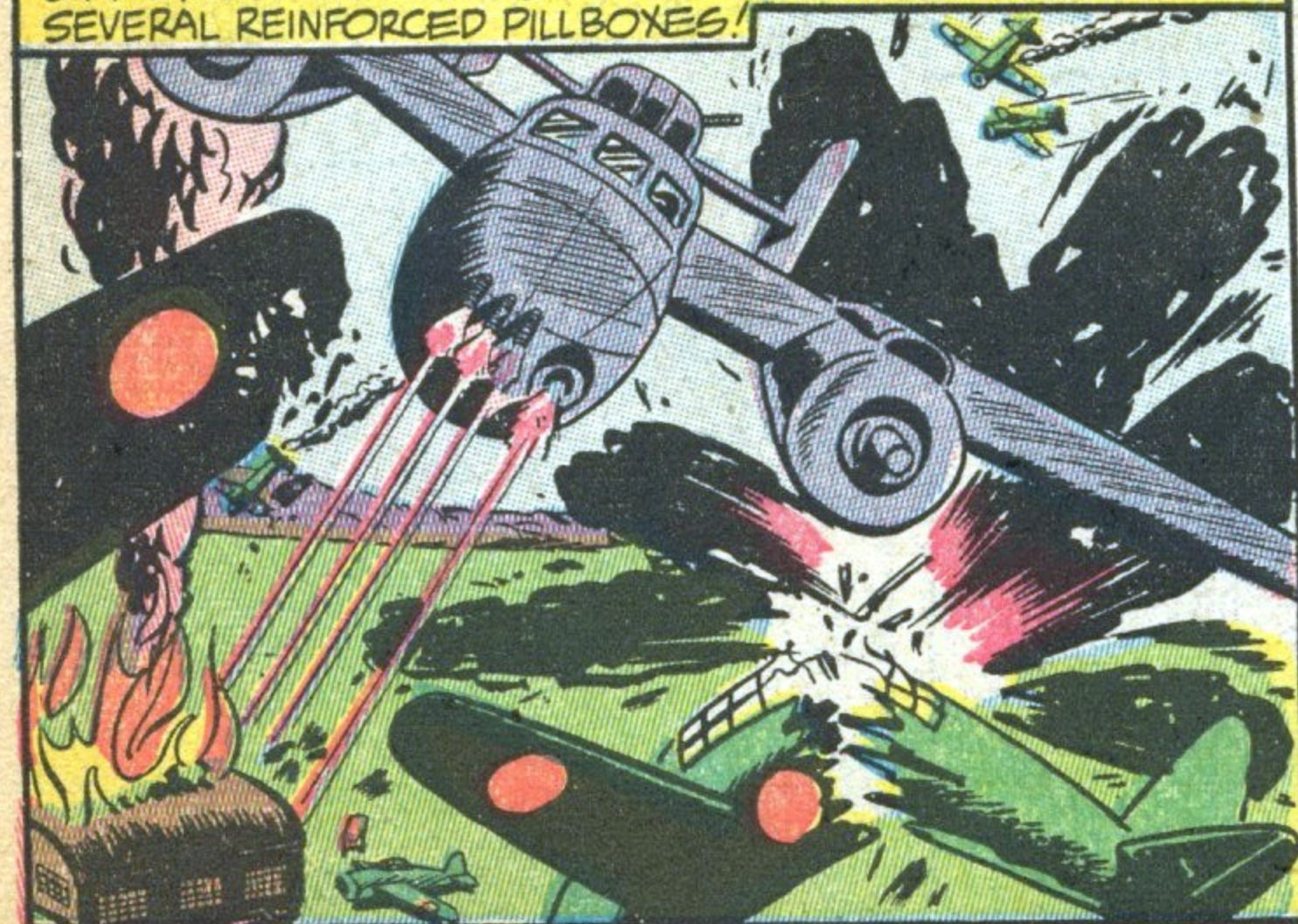
ON ITS FIRST MISSION, ONE CANNON CARRYING PLANE SPOTTED A JAP DESTROYER, CRAMMED WITH JAP SOLDIERS!



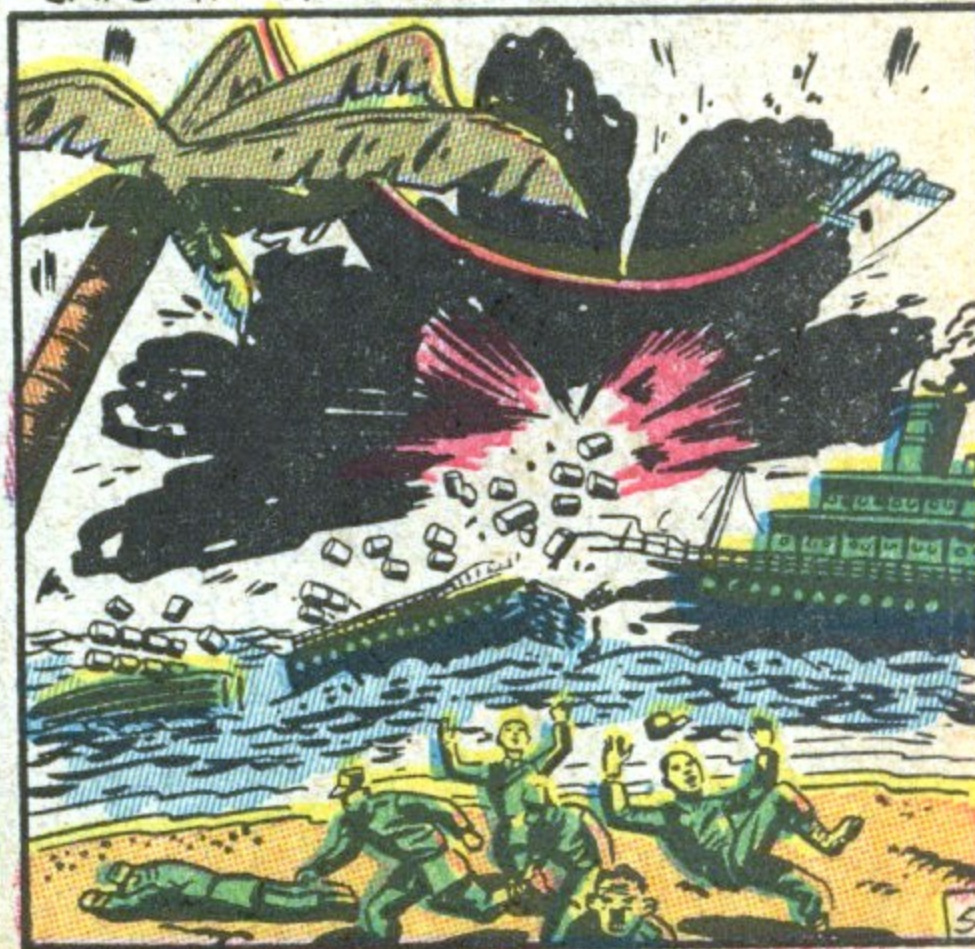
WHEN THE 75 FINISHED WITH THE DESTROYER, THE SHIP WAS READY FOR THE SCRAP PILE!



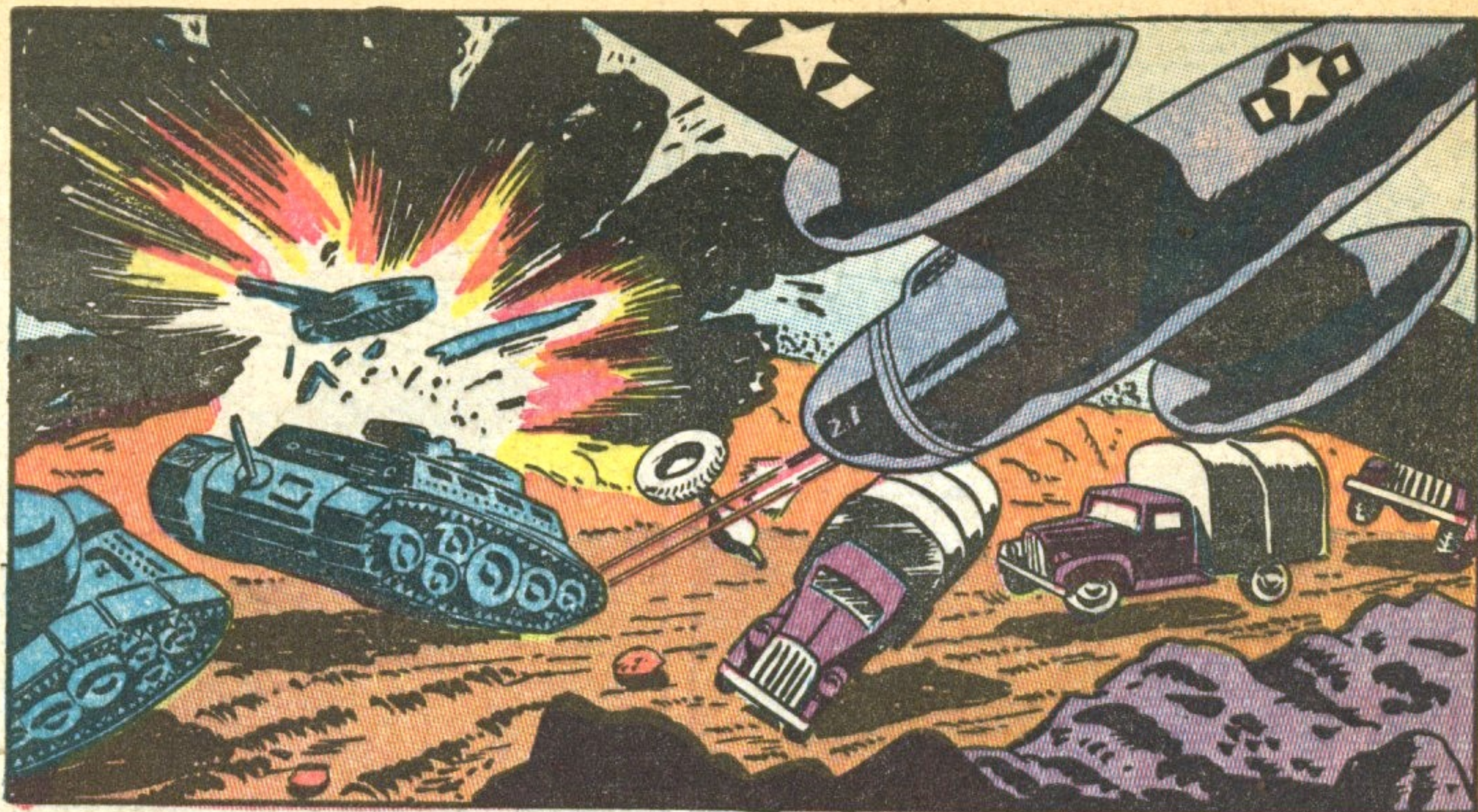
ON ITS SECOND MISSION, THE B-25 BLASTED JAP RUNWAY STRIPS, DESTROYED GROUNDED PLANES AND SILENCED SEVERAL REINFORCED PILLBOXES!



DURING ITS LUCKY THIRD MISSION, THE SAME B-25 DESTROYED A JAP TRANSPORT THAT WAS UNLOADING!... AND WITH ONE FIFTEEN POUND SHELL KILLED FIFTEEN JAPS TRYING TO ESCAPE ON THE BEACH!



OTHER
B-25
CANNON
PLANES
PROVE
THEY
CAN
COMPLETELY
DESTROY
LIGHT
TANKS,
AND
PUT
THE
HEAVIEST
TANKS
OUT
OF
COMMISSION!



Then, ADDITIONAL PLANES RIP UP RAILROAD YARDS AND LOCOMOTIVES!



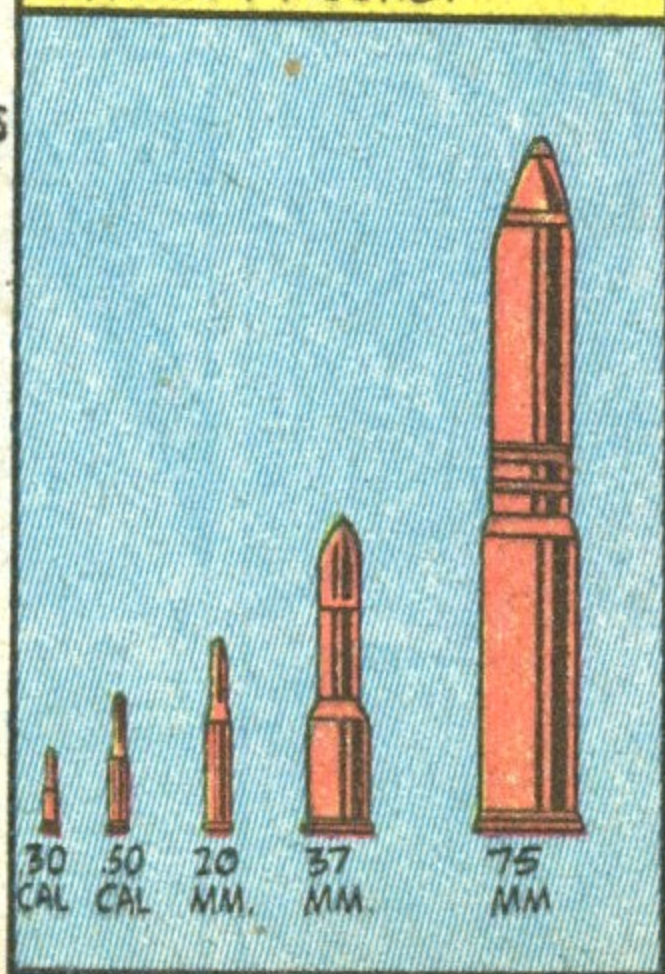
THE B-25'S ARE EQUALLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST LANDING BARGES, POWER PLANTS AND AMMUNITION DUMPS!



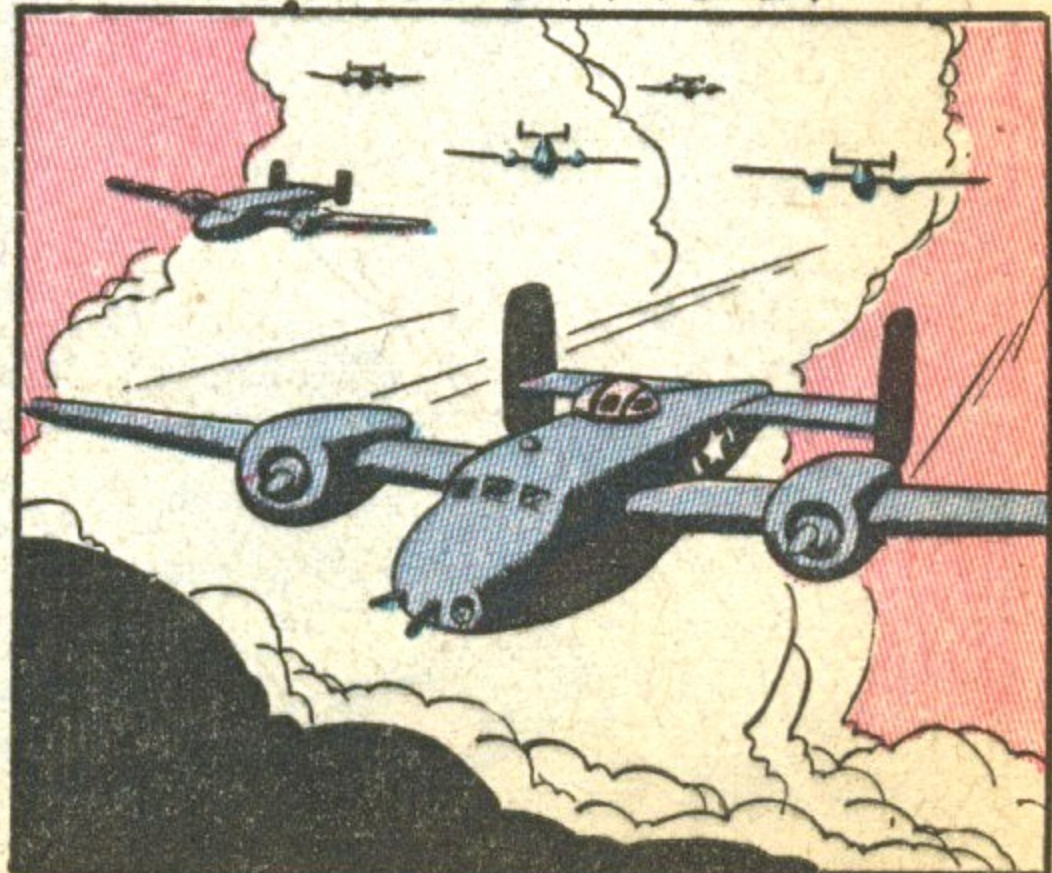
FIFTEEN POUNDS OF STEEL AND HIGH EXPLOSIVES ARE ENCLOSED IN THE 75... THE COMPLETE SHELL INCLUDING CASE, PROPELLING CHARGE AND PROJECTIVE WEIGHS TWENTY POUNDS AND MEASURES... BUT TWENTY-SIX INCHES!



HERE IS HOW THE 75 MM CANNON SHELL COMPARES WITH THOSE USED IN OTHER AIRCRAFT GUNS!



TODAY, CANNON WITH WINGS ARE CREATING HAVOC AMONG THE PANIC STRICKEN ENEMY... WHO KNOW THAT THE MIGHTY 75 AND OTHER YANK INVENTIONS SPELL CERTAIN DOOM TO THE TOTALITARIAN DESPOTS WHO ONCE DREAMED OF RULING THE WORLD!

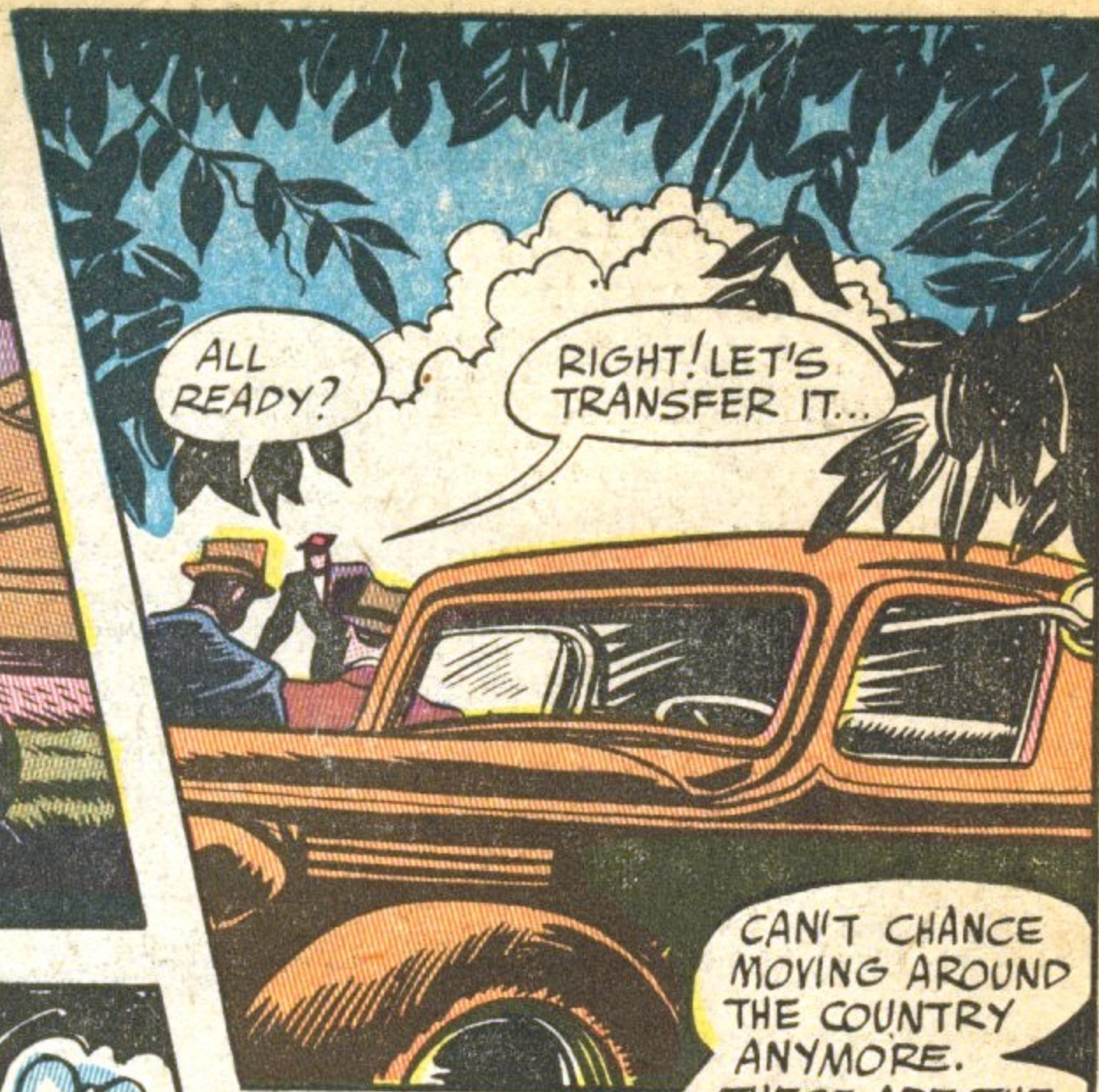
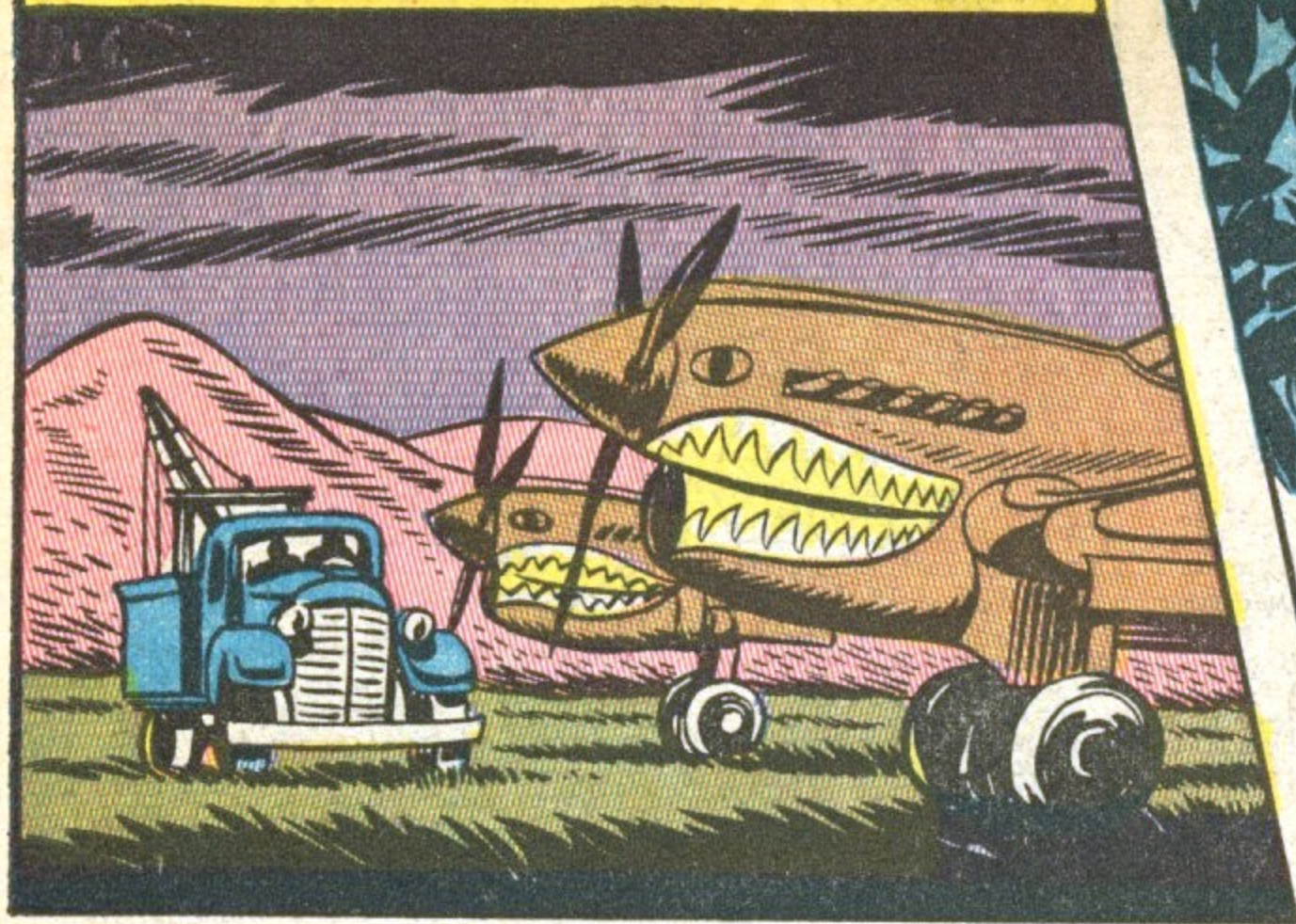


Tommy TOMAHAWK

THERE ARE MEN WHO SELL
WAR AS CASUALTY AS OTHER
MEN SELL SHIRTS OR MEAT.
THESE MEN, CYNICAL BEYOND
ALL NORMAL PEOPLE'S
UNDERSTANDING, WILL TRY
TO LET NOTHING STAND IN
THE WAY OF WHAT IS TO
THEM A PROFITABLE
LIVING... IN DEALING OUT
DEATH! FOLLOW TOMMY
AND HIS SQUAD IN THEIR
ADVENTURES IN THE
INTERNATIONAL
AIR PATROL!

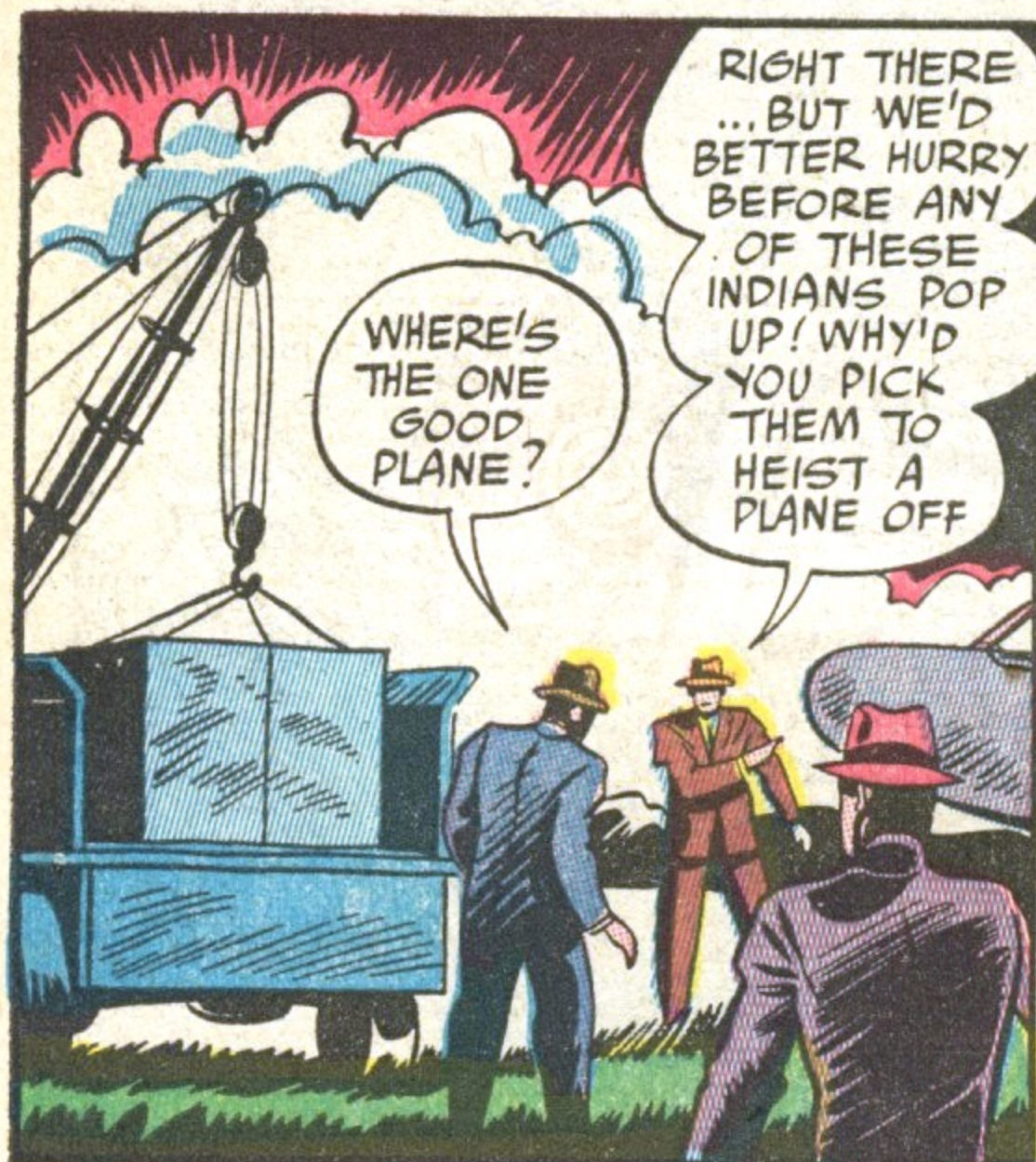


A DARK NIGHT AND EVEN DARKER BUSINESS...



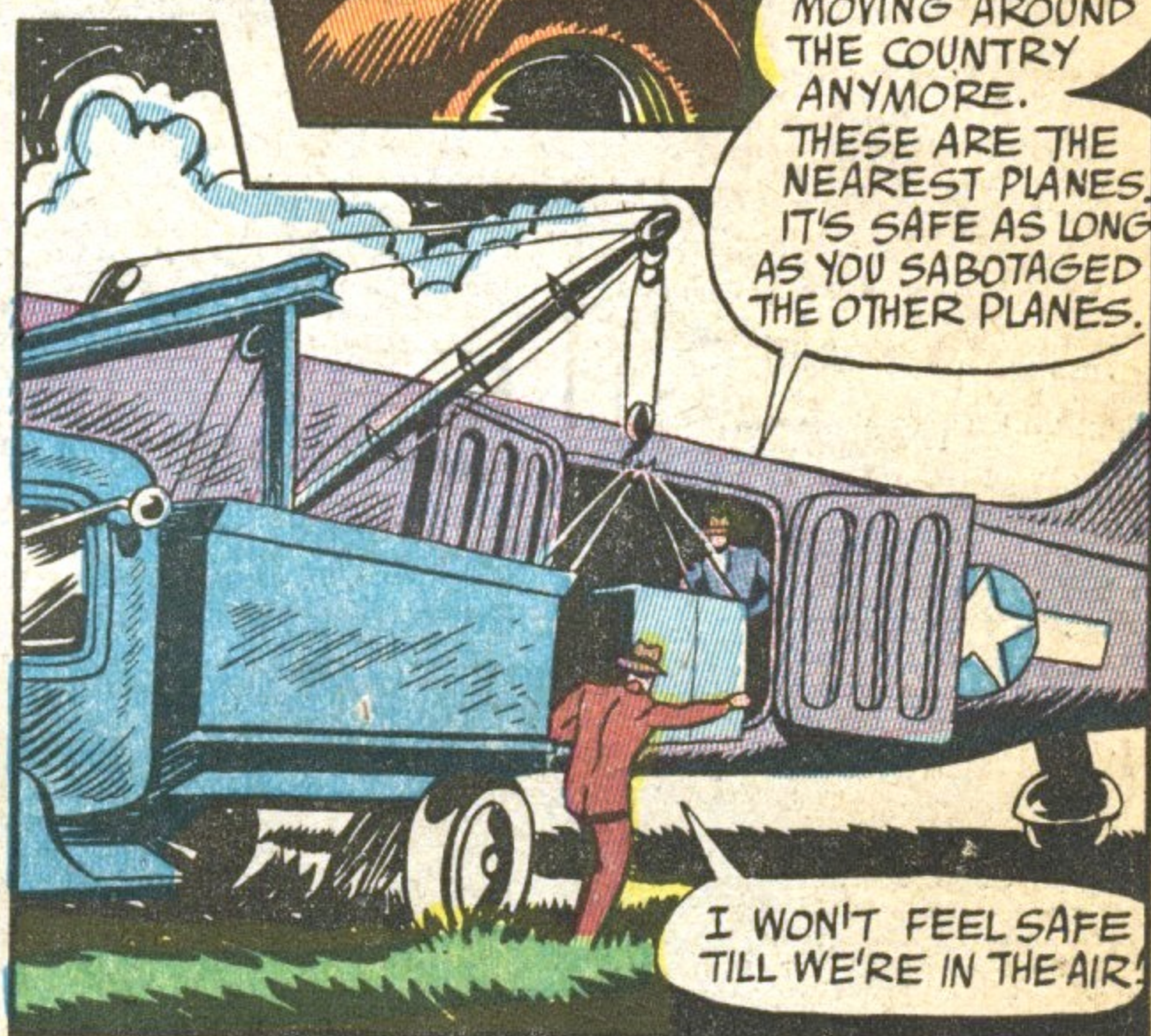
ALL
READY?

RIGHT! LET'S
TRANSFER IT...



WHERE'S
THE ONE
GOOD
PLANE?

RIGHT THERE
...BUT WE'D
BETTER HURRY
BEFORE ANY
OF THESE
INDIANS POP
UP! WHY'D
YOU PICK
THEM TO
HEIST A
PLANE OFF



CAN'T CHANCE
MOVING AROUND
THE COUNTRY
ANYMORE.
THESE ARE THE
NEAREST PLANES.
IT'S SAFE AS LONG
AS YOU SABOTAGED
THE OTHER PLANES.

I WON'T FEEL SAFE
TILL WE'RE IN THE AIR!



ALL SET! I'VE DONE MY PART OF THE
DEAL! NOW GIMME THAT GRAND YOU
PROMISED ME!

THANKS!
- HERE
YOU
ARE!



THAT'LL ATTRACT
ATTENTION...
- HURRY...

BAROOM

IN THE CONTROL TOWER, BLACK BEAR IS JOLTED BY THE SOUND OF...

BARROOM

WHAT A QUIET PEACEFUL NIGHT ... A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE NIGHTS OVER THERE... WHAT THE... A SHOT...

THERE'S NO ONE SCHEDULED FOR A TAKE OFF NOW...WHAT GIVES, TOMMY... NO... HE'S TIRED... I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...

THAT MAN...HE'S DEAD... HE'S NOT ONE OF OUR MEN. — BETTER SEE WHO'S BEEN USING OUR FIELD FOR A GRAVEYARD!

THE SOUND OF ANOTHER PLANE TAKING OFF WAKES TOMMY...

THAT'S BLACK BEAR'S PLANE.. WHY IS HE TAKING OFF..GOOD GRIEF, HIS UNDER CARRIAGE .. — HE'LL CRACK UP IF HE TRIES TO LAND!

IN SWIFT PURSUIT...

I'LL GET THEM IN ANOTHER FIFTEEN MINUTES!

OH...OH..TOMMY'S AWAKENED...HELLO? — WHAT? MY UNDER CARRIAGE? WHAT GOES ON?

BLACK BEAR BRINGS TOMMY UP TO DATE...

DEAD MAN, STOLEN PLANE...OH...HELLO JOHNNY TWO FINGERS... LISTEN, GO LOOK AT THE PLANES...THERE'S SOME DIRTY WORK GOING ON... — HULLO, BLACK BEAR... KEEP THE OTHER PLANE IN SIGHT...

MINUTES LATER...

TOMMY...EVERYONE OF OUR PLANES HAS BEEN SABOTAGED!

WOW! I WANT TO GET IN ON THIS!

IN THE PLANE...

LISTEN, BLACK BEAR...
I CAN'T BE LEFT OUT
OF THIS... YOU'RE IN
THE FASTEST PLANE
WE HAVE... COME ON
BACK AND PICK
ME UP!

TOMMY HAVE
YOU GONE OUT
OF YOUR MIND?
— I HAVE NO
UNDER
CARRIAGE...

THAT DID IT... NOW
TO TURN ON THE WINCH
AND BRING TOMMY UP
HERE!

WHAT? I HAVE A
WINCH DON'T I?
OH... SAY, THAT'S
A SWELL IDEA!
— BE READY!

USING A TECHNIQUE
PERFECTED IN WAR...

WE'VE PRACTISED
THIS OFTEN ENOUGH!
— I HOPE IT
WORKS! HERE
GOES...

THIS IS AS CLOSE
TO REAL FLYING AS
YOU CAN COME
WITHOUT WINGS!

OKAY,
TOMMY?

RIGHT! LET'S GO...
— GIVE HER THE GUN!
I WANT TO MEET
THE GUYS WHO
SABOTAGED OUR
PLANES!

BACK INTO THE SKIES WITH SOUPED UP,
SUPER-CHARGED MOTORS ROARING...

YOU
TOOK A
POSITION
ON HIM?

SURE... WE'LL
BE BACK WHERE
I LEFT THEM...
THEY DIDN'T
GET AWAY...

SPEEDING
MINUTES
LATER...

CHER-ROOKKEE!

ARCING HIGH IN THE SKY AND THEN DOWN..

I GET IT...
THEY DON'T
KNOW THEY
DON'T HAVE ANY
UNDER CARRIAGE!
ALL WE HAVE TO DO
IS LAND...THEY FOLLOW
US AND CRASH! HO! HO!

A VERY SHREWD
IDEA, MR. THADE!
— DOWN, WE
GO!

BLAST IT! I THOUGHT
WE LOST THAT!

AND THAT CREEP WAS
SUPPOSED TO HAVE
DAMAGED ALL THOSE
OTHER PLANES! WAIT...
THEY'VE LOST THEIR
WHEELS! THEY CAN'T
SET IT DOWN!

FOR A MOMENT, TOMMY IS BAFFLED BY THIS NEW
DEVELOPMENT...

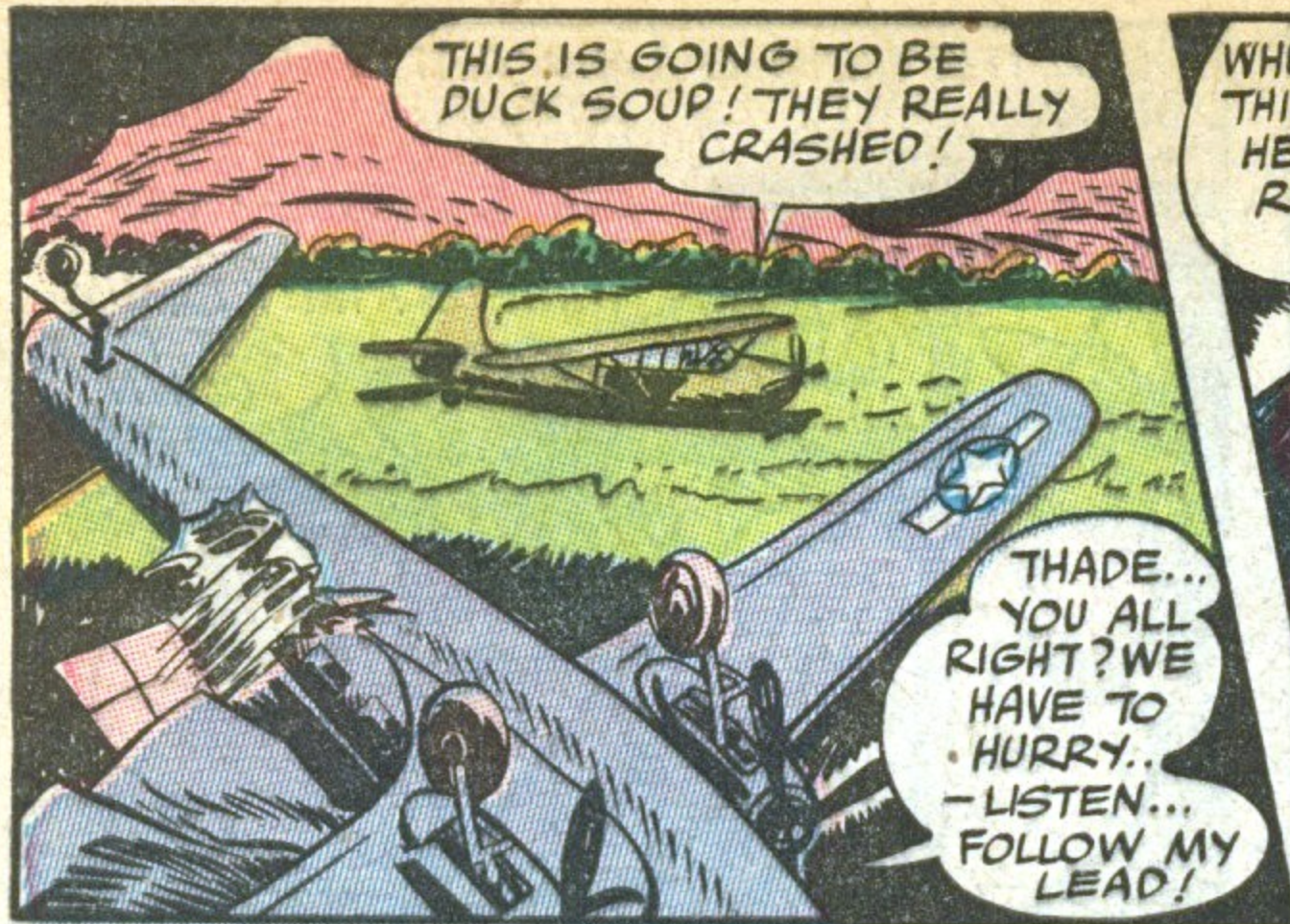
THEY'RE GIVING
UP WITHOUT A
FIGHT... LOOK !!!
THEY'RE LANDING!

THIS DOESN'T MAKE
SENSE! NO KILLER
WOULD GIVE UP THIS
EASY! HEY!... I GOT IT!
THEY EXPECT US TO
CRASH WHEN WE
LAND! LET'S FOOL
'EM!

IT'S NOT AS SMOOTH
AS WE THOUGHT...
— HOLD TIGHT!... WE'RE
GOING TO CRASH!

WOW! IF I CAN'T MAKE A
BETTER LANDING WITHOUT
WHEELS THAN THAT, I'LL GO
BACK TO A BICYCLE!

GO AHEAD AND
PANCAKE !!

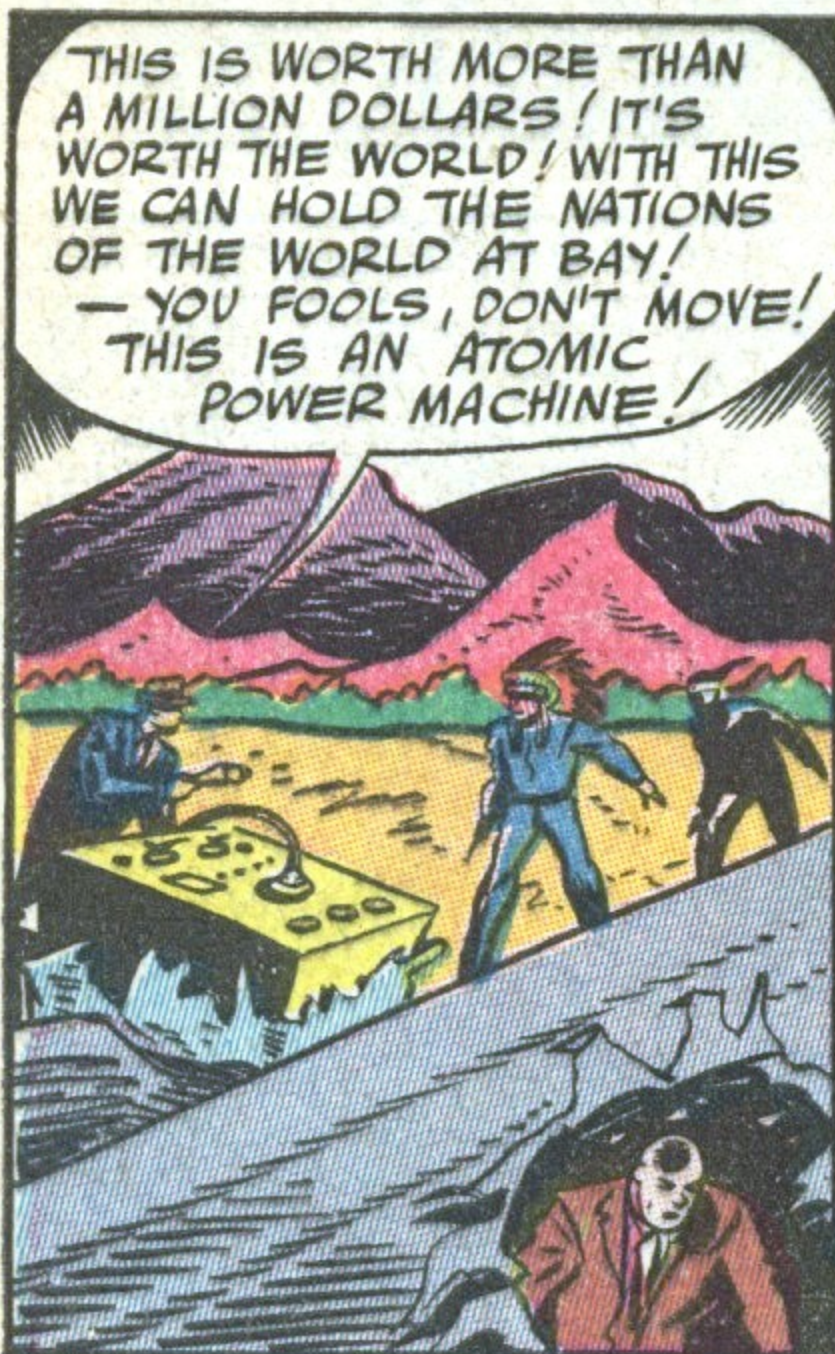
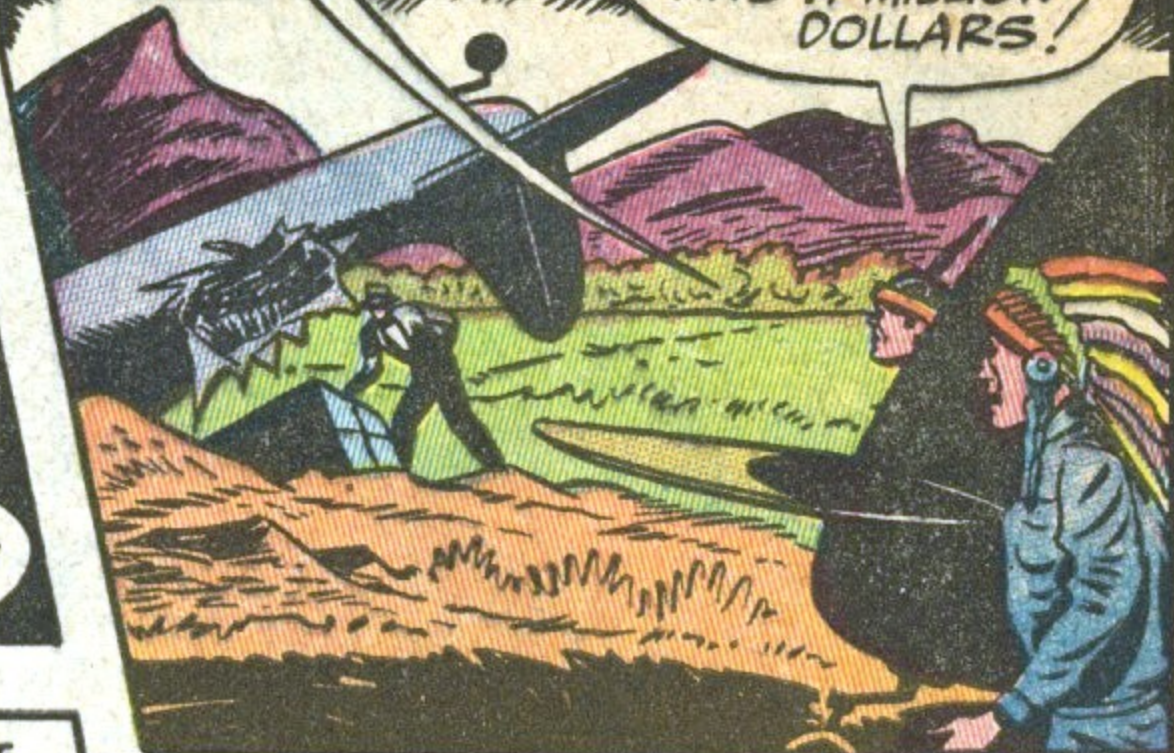


THIS IS GOING TO BE DUCK SOUP! THEY REALLY CRASHED!

THADE... YOU ALL RIGHT? WE HAVE TO HURRY... -LISTEN... FOLLOW MY LEAD!

WHEW.. THAT SQUARE THING MUST BE AWFUL HEAVY TO HAVE RIPPED THROUGH THAT WAY!

LOOKS LIKE THE ANSWER TO THIS RIDDLE IS IN THE PACKAGE! LOOK AT HIM RACE TO IT! - YOU'D THINK IT WAS A MILLION DOLLARS!



THIS IS WORTH MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS! IT'S WORTH THE WORLD! WITH THIS WE CAN HOLD THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD AT BAY! - YOU FOOLS, DON'T MOVE! THIS IS AN ATOMIC POWER MACHINE!

NO WONDER IT WAS HEAVY! ATOMIC MOTORS HAVE TO BE COVERED BY A SEVEN FOOT WALL OF LEAD OR THE RADIATION TURNS YOUR BONES TO WATER!

UGH...



ONE MOVE AND I TURN YOU TO DUST!

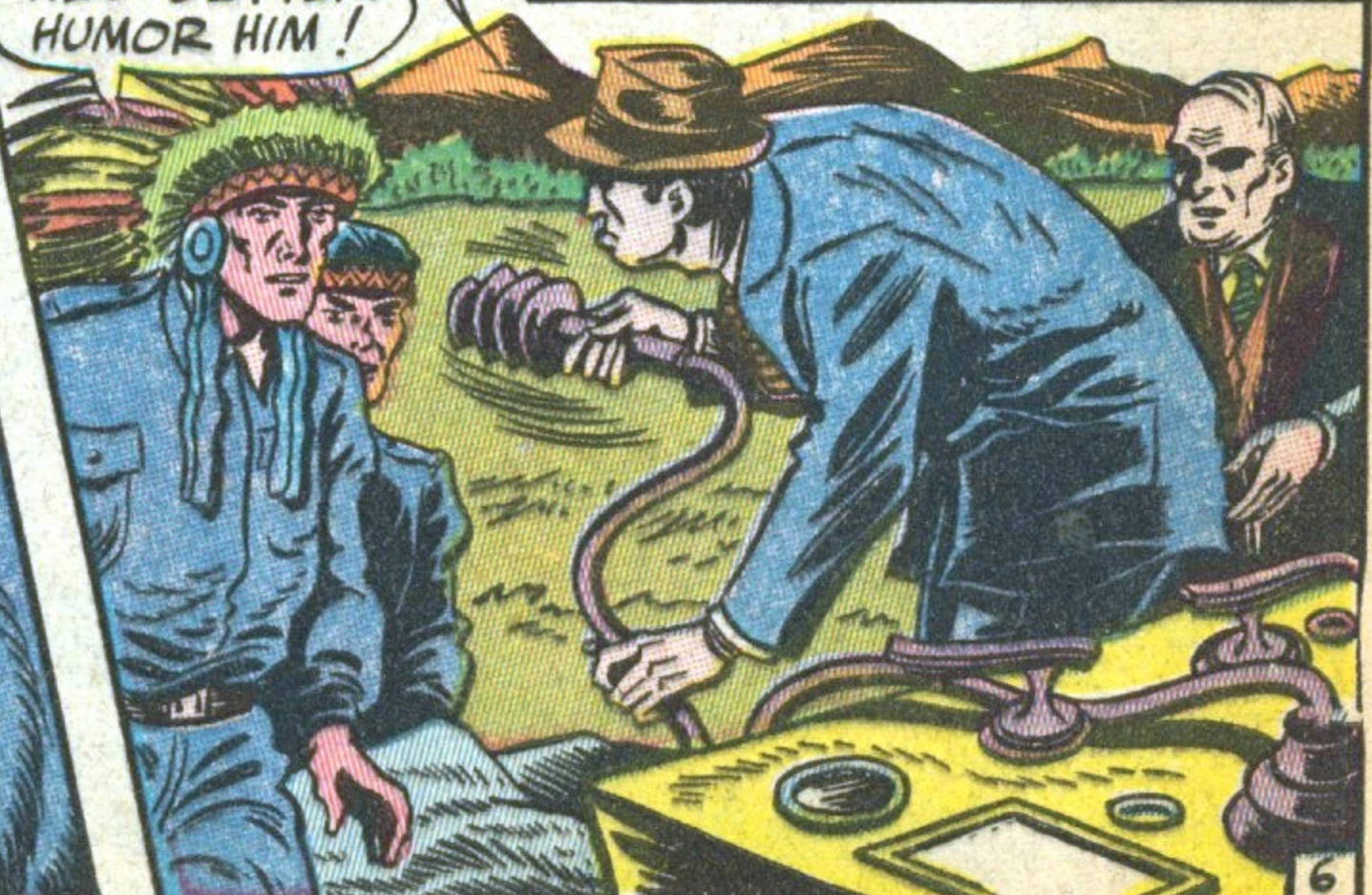
GO AHEAD AND BLAST THEM AND STOP ALL THE TALK!



SURE, BLAST THEM AND THEN HOW DO WE GET OFF THIS PLATEAU? -THEY'RE BETTER FLYERS THAN WE. MAYBE THEY CAN PATCH UP ONE OF THE PLANES AND GET US OFF HERE WITH THIS!

C'MERE...SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO...OR I'LL...

WE'D BETTER HUMOR HIM!



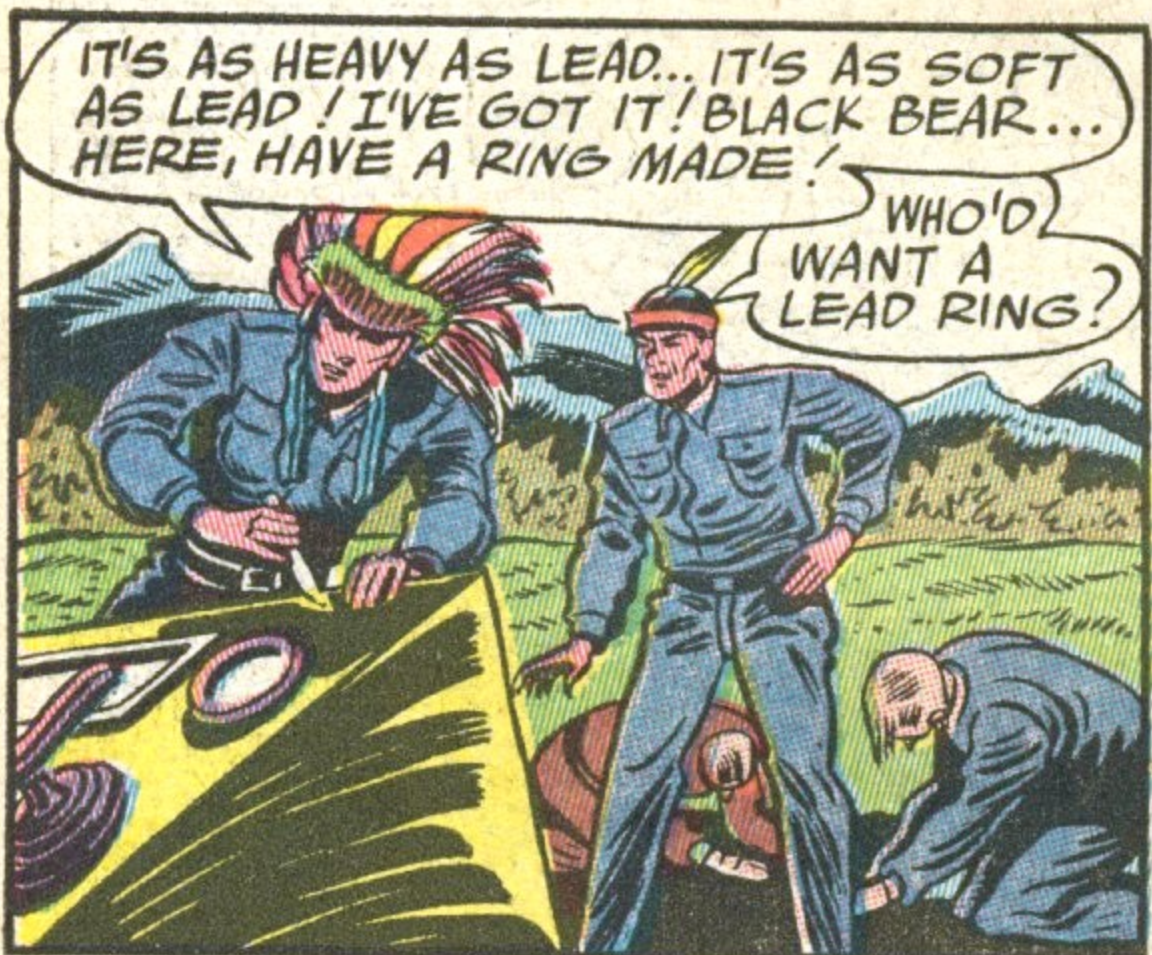
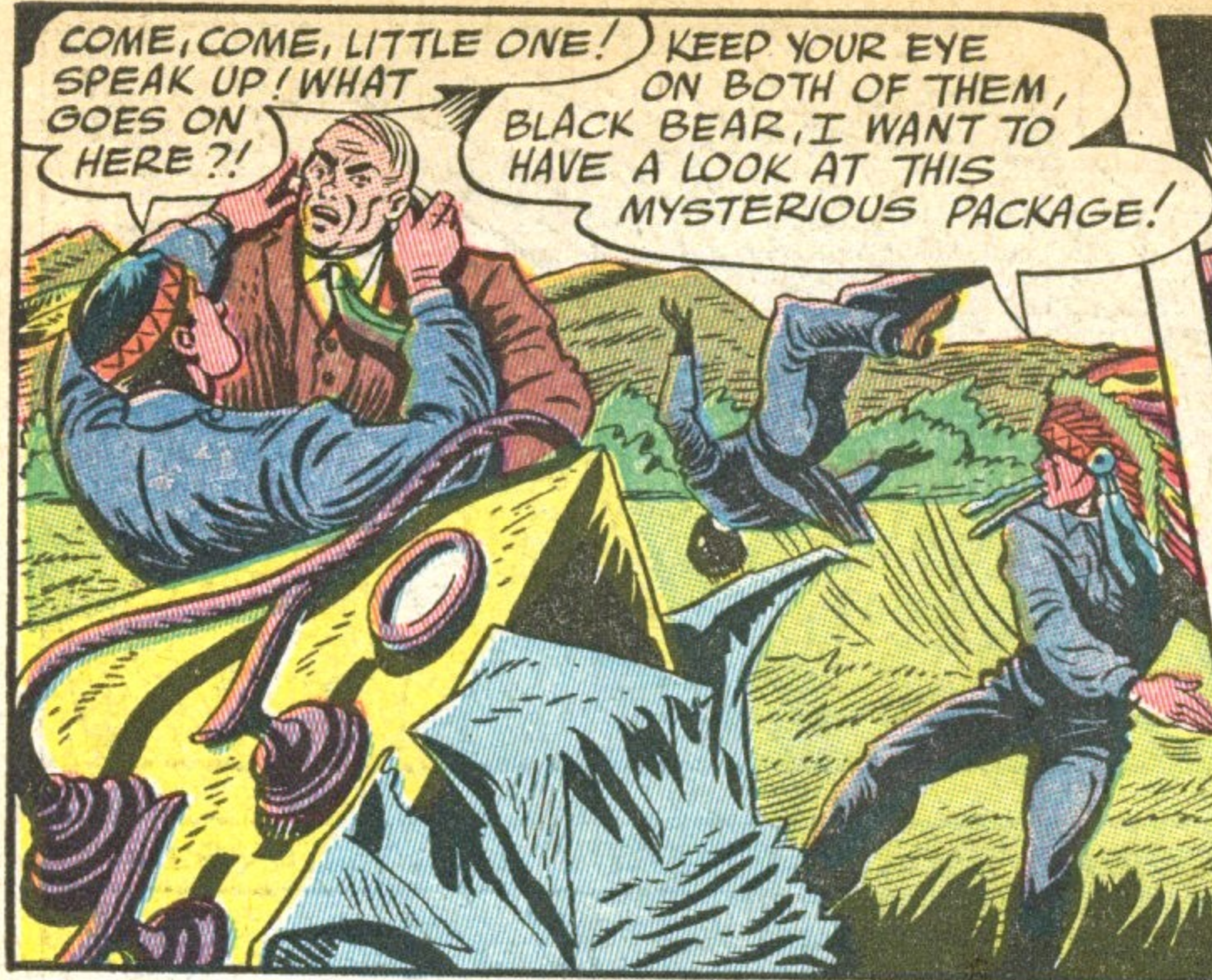


SUDDEN ANTI-CLIMAX...THERE IS NO WITHERING FIRE FROM THE MACHINE...



HAVING MADE THE TOUGHEST DECISION THEY EVER HAD TO MAKE...THEY GAMBLE!





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☐ Send C.O.D. I'll pay postman \$1.98 plus
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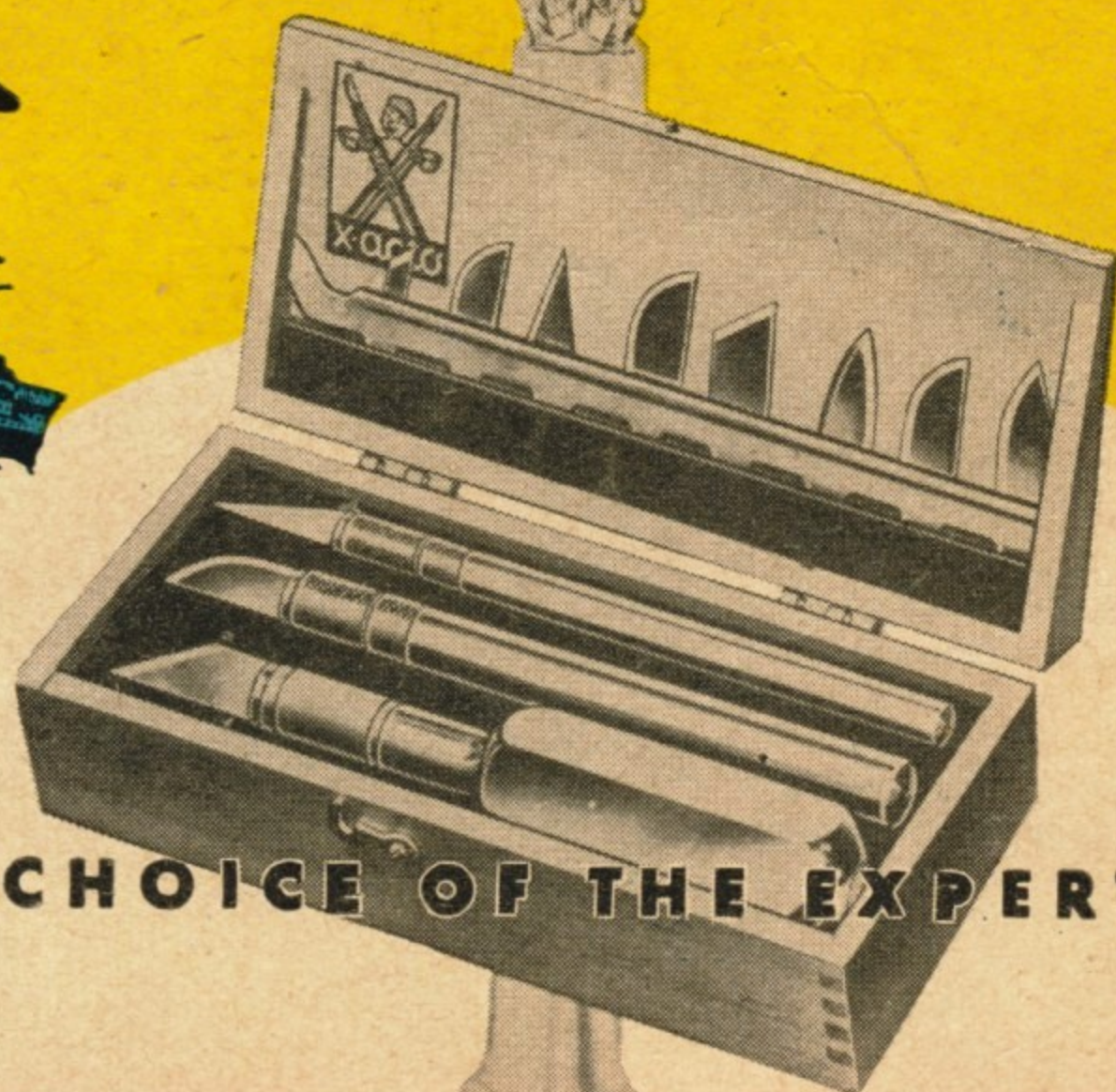
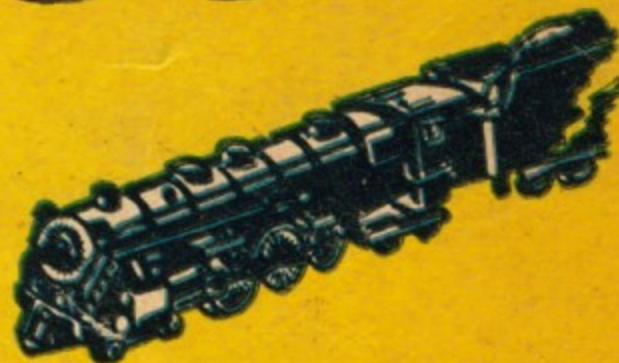
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CHOICE OF THE EXPERTS

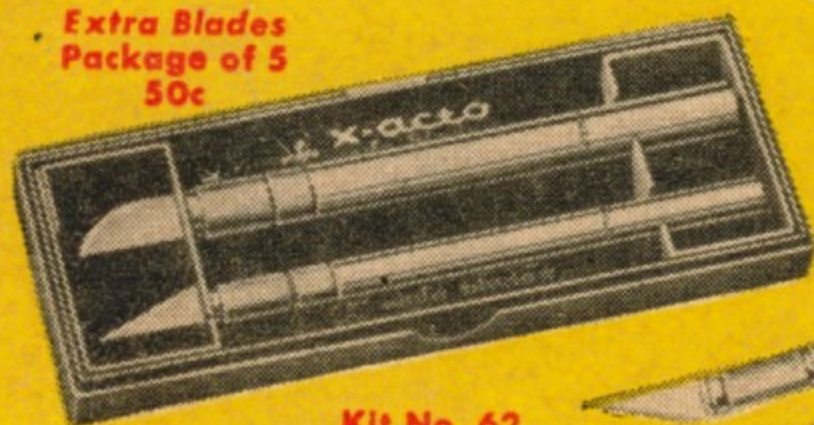
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